

2021 BUDGETARY PROCEDURE

Doc No:
3: (2)

02.10.2020

COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

RAPPORTEURS:

PIERRE LARROUTUROU - SECTION III (COMMISSION)

OLIVIER CHASTEL - OTHER SECTIONS

PARLIAMENT'S POSITION

Amendments tabled with the Sitings Service

OR

OR

Draft amendment 186

=== ITRE/5030 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PA 01 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 01 21 01							1 500 000	750 000	1 500 000	750 000
Reserve										
Total							1 500 000	750 000	1 500 000	750 000

Heading:

Preparatory action —Advancing evidence for policy at EU, regional and local level

Remarks:

Add following text:

INTRODUCTION

Evidence-informed policymaking (EIPM) has become more important than ever due the ever-increasing complexity of economic, social and environmental challenges we are facing. The current policy challenges are characterised by a mixture of complexity, uncertainty and ambiguity. These challenges ultimately have an impact on citizens at local and regional level; which is why EIPM matters even more at those levels of governance. Moreover, in the current climate of populism, post truth and fake news public scrutiny and the accountability of science are crucial aspects to enhance the democratic processes.

The Pilot Project ‘Science meets Parliaments/Science meets Regions’ addressed these challenges mainly through the organisation of events on various policy topics and the financing of studies in support of this event, as well as some pilot training course for national, regional and local policymakers.

As the pilot phase is ending, it is clear that there is still being a real need for this tool, especially at regional and local level. It is also obvious that the next steps should work towards a clearer focus and structural impact across regions and cities in Europe, beyond the pioneering work in the pilot project.

This will be the main objective of the Preparatory Action, which will primarily address Commission policy priorities topics in line with the Commission policy priorities:

- European Green Deal*
- Digital transition*
- Promoting an economy that works for people*
- Enhancing European democracy*
- Promoting the European way of life*

The regional and local actors across Europe are actively involved in reaching these policy objectives in particular:

- Contributing to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, while boosting the competitiveness of industry and ensuring a fair transition for the territories and workers affected*
- Implementing the social pillar and supporting SMEs investment and financing*
- Enhancing the integration of migrants at local level and fighting poverty*
- Increasing investment in technologies such as block chain and artificial intelligence*

-Giving a stronger role to European citizens in decision-making in order to build trust in the institutions/public sectors as well as in the democratic processes

The preparatory action will also aim at filling the gap in the EU instruments dealing with EIPM, which target mainly the national authorities (governments) and do not foresee any networking initiative at European level to share practices, methods and instruments.

OBJECTIVES

Building on the successful results achieved during the pilot phase, the preparatory action aims at strengthening local science for policy ecosystems through the following objectives:

- 1) Building awareness and mutual understanding at regional, interregional and national level on policy-relevant questions and the kind of evidence needed to answer them.*
- 2) Supporting regional and local decision-makers and policymakers to develop skills to understand, obtain, assess and utilize targeted, reliable high-quality evidence as well as engaging with stakeholder.*
- 3) Creating a community of practitioners across Europe that share experiences and knowledge in order to enhance the local ecosystem for EIPM.*

ACTIONS OR TYPES OF FINANCIAL INTERVENTIONS

1. Country-based component

In cooperation with the Committee of the Regions, elaborate a ‘recommendations guide’ of implementation of the post 2020 policies. Then, this strand will finance 10 innovation camps at regional and municipal level to address key challenges framed in one of the abovementioned Commission policy priorities (green deal, digital transformation, etc.). The project proposals have to be submitted by regions or cities in partnership with local stakeholders (universities, development agencies, etc.). Furthermore, the project should target structural impact, and preferably be embedded in a process at national or regional level, with the aim of putting in place policies, programmes or strategies.

This component will also support pairing schemes between policymakers and scientists, in order to build policy makers’ capacity to use research in their work. Through creating these connections, the programme aims to facilitate a long term dialogue between the two communities, to make research more accessible, and to increase policy makers’ use of evidence in their work.

2. Multi-countries component

This strand will support initiatives, such as conferences or workshops, which involve at least 2 regions or cities, possibly based on existing partnerships. The topic of the initiative should be in line with one of the above-mentioned Commission policy priorities. This component will allow regions and cities to share experiences with others facing similar challenges, or having complementary expertise and capacity.

3. Community-building component

This component will support the creation of a European community of practitioners involving the participants in the preparatory action and in the previous pilot project. It will finance actions such as:

- Training courses for policy makers on EIPM and citizen engagement.*
- Training courses for national, regional and local schools of government of academies (training the trainers).*
- A study on the practices and tools to strengthen the capacity to create and use evidence at regional and local level across Europe; aiming to provide a broad overview of EIPM at subnational level.*
- A platform to share best practices and examples of EIPM at subnational level;*
- An annual conference organised jointly with the European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions.*

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Preparatory action within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

As the current Covid-19 crisis forcefully shows, scientific evidence to inform public policy is vital. Not only at national level, but also for local and regional policy makers. It is also obvious that the next steps should work towards a clearer focus and structural impact across regions and cities in Europe, beyond the pioneering work in the pilot project. The objective of the initiative is to build closer links between scientists and policy-makers at EU, national and regional levels and enhance the role of science in policy through regular dialogue.

Draft amendment 250

==== CULT/5900 ====

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PA 02 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 02 21 01							2 400 000	1 200 000	2 400 000	1 200 000
Reserve										
Total							2 400 000	1 200 000	2 400 000	1 200 000

Heading:

Preparatory action - Increasing accessibility to educational tools in areas and communities with low connectivity or access to technologies

Remarks:

Add following text:

This preparatory action received an A grading following the EC assessment. The aim of this preparatory action is to develop a strategy designed to increase accessibility to education tools in the European areas and communities that mostly need such support. Remote areas like mountain areas, rural areas, islands or deltas are particularly significant for this PA. The action will consist in identifying the best available solutions and practices in the field and will lead to implementing and testing some of the most suitable solutions on a large scale or for a larger number of beneficiaries.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Preparatory action within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

More than half of the global population of students and pupils cannot go to school and universities because of the current context. In Europe, the civil society evaluates that around 20% of young people are not having any access to online education while in some countries the percentage is even higher. The numbers are even lower if we refer to areas and communities with a low connectivity or access to technologies. This will unfortunately lead to even higher inequalities in Europe and in member states.

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Draft amendment 34

==== ECON/6108 ====

Tabled by Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PA 03 20 04 — Preparatory action — EU Tax and Financial Crimes Observatory — Capacity building to support Union policymaking in the area of taxation

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 03 20 04	1 200 000	300 000	p.m.	900 000	p.m.	900 000	1 200 000	600 000	1 200 000	1 500 000
Reserve										
Total	1 200 000	300 000	p.m.	900 000	p.m.	900 000	1 200 000	600 000	1 200 000	1 500 000

Remarks:

After paragraph:

Given the role of this observatory, implementation TAXUD, in close collaboration with other relevant DGs.

Add following text:

The abundance of tax evasion and avoidance revelations over the last few years has significantly shaken the confidence of European citizens, businesses and trade unions in the robustness and fairness of EU rules against tax evasion, tax avoidance and money laundering. When 3 out of 4 citizens expect the European Union to do more on taxation, it is essential to ensure that public interests and interests of all stakeholders are taken into account in designing initiatives aiming at strengthening European rules against tax evasion and tax avoidance.

This preparatory action will create a specialised and independent observatory on EU tax and financial crime matters, its main functions being to:

- create a publicly-accessible repository of data on tax evasion and tax avoidance in the EU and the effects of policy reform in these domains;*
- disseminate the available data in a user-friendly manner and inform the wider public of issues relating to tax fairness, including related issues such as anti-money-laundering rules, for business and individual taxpayers and the wider public;*
- provide secretarial and management functions for a future multi-stakeholder expert forum, which inter alia would be a consultative body in charge of methodological guidance in the area of taxation and financial crime;*
- produce evidence and recommendations relating to combating tax evasion, tax avoidance and financial crime on the basis of the work of the forum;*
- liaise with different international organisations and national administrations on issues relating to EU tax and anti-money laundering policymaking (i.e. anti-money-laundering legislation is necessary to counter tax evasion).*

Given the role of this Observatory, we suggest that the leadership for the implementation of this

preparatory action is taken by Directorate General (DG) TAXUD within the European Commission, in close collaboration with other relevant DGs, especially DG FISMA.

Justification:

It is important to have a body with a specific mandate to follow EU decision-making in the area of taxation and money laundering, that provides for new elements of information and represents voices which are currently absent from the debate. This proposal for a Preparatory Action is a continued project from a PA approved in the Budget 2020.

Draft amendment 127

=== IMCO/6356 ===

Tabled by Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PA 03 20 05 — Preparatory action — Assessing alleged differences in the quality of products sold on the internal market

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 03 20 05	900 000	225 000	p.m.	270 000	p.m.	270 000	900 000	180 000	900 000	450 000
Reserve										
Total	900 000	225 000	p.m.	270 000	p.m.	270 000	900 000	180 000	900 000	450 000

Remarks:

After paragraph:

This preparatory action will be implemented via procurement. the help of the Commission’s Joint Research Centre.

Add following text:

This preparatory action is a follow-up to pilot projects from 2018 and 2019 and preparatory action from 2020. It will be carried out in a manner that is fully consistent with what has already been done by the Commission to address the issue of dual quality. It will take fully into account the results of the pilot projects, thus ensuring continuity. Moreover, the preparatory action will build on a common methodology as well as on what has emerged and what has been learnt from the Union-wide testing campaign. It will focus on extending the scope of research to include non-food products (e.g. detergents, cosmetics, toiletries and baby products, as provided for under the pilot projects), with samples from all Member States, and on the feasibility of creating a permanent quality monitoring centre for products sold on the internal market, with a view to long-term action to resolve the issue of dual quality on the internal market.

Justification:

The continuing preparatory action, within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council, aims at further addressing the issue of dual quality of food and non-food products. It will continue building on a common methodology as well as on what has emerged and what has been learnt from the Union-wide testing campaign, with a view to long-term action to resolve the issue of dual quality on the internal market.

Draft amendment 446

=== TRAN/5517 ===

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PA 03 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 03 21 01							2 500 000	1 250 000	2 500 000	1 250 000
Reserve										
Total							2 500 000	1 250 000	2 500 000	1 250 000

Heading:

Preparatory action — The European Crisis-management mechanism for the Tourism sector

Remarks:

Add following text:

Comprising over 2 million businesses and employing over 13 million people, the tourism industry represents around 7% of the total EU export earnings, making it the fourth largest export industry.

As tourism represents a very important percentage of some of the Member States' GDPs - for ex. around 14% for Italy, Spain and France and around 16,5% for Portugal its importance at national and European level is undeniable.

Europe is the world's number one tourist destination, but growth pace slowed down as of 2019 due to uncertainties surrounding Brexit, the collapse of Thomas Cook and other airlines companies and now the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, we should not forget the lessons learned from the past - as the terrorist attacks of the previous years and their negative impact on the tourism sector. All these unfortunate cases show that the Tourism industry is very fragile when it comes to exceptional circumstances or/and exceptional occurrences, leaving question marks and sometimes irreversible effects on the value chain - SME's, tour operators, airline companies, hotelier, catering sector and so on, fall apart on the domino effect.

In this kind of exceptional circumstances consumers face reservation cancellations, workers risk to be deprived from their income, companies, in particular SMEs need financial support and liquidity and despite some of the national state aid mechanisms, which are granted with an extra-flexibility, there's a lack of legal certainty and more specifically there's a lack of a united EU response. The latest events present the tourism & travel sector with a major and evolving challenge. The first immediate measure is to ensure that travel and tourism are fully integrated in national, regional and global emergency, mitigation and support package. This proposal of preparatory action is focus in Tourism preparedness for putting in place mechanisms at EU level to manage future crisis engaging all relevant stakeholders.

Therefore, one thing is clear there is a need to improve risk assessment and crisis preparedness with both the public and private sector. At EU level there is not any coherent, well-structured strategy, which can be a basis of an European-wide crisis management mechanism. There is not any common plan of action with clear objectives, an inclusive approach with resource allocations and responsibilities.

The European Commission put in place different instruments - flexibility of state aid measures, programmes supporting SMEs, programme SURE, passengers' rights legislation, slot waiver of 80/20 principle. Some of the measures presented by the Commission are in form of loans and guarantees and should arrive to the SMEs with a very low or zero interest rate, with at least 1 year of grace period. However, we need a single crisis management mechanism, with shared responsibility for the EU, the Member States, regional and local authorities, all playing key roles in managing and maintaining the Tourism industry, in order to give a uniform European response to future crisis.

The general aim of the preparatory action is to create a European crisis-management mechanism for the Tourism sector including the following elements:

- a proper crisis-management financial pool, based on existing or newly created instruments, which would facilitate the Tourism enterprises' access to financial support and liquidity in all parts of the Tourism

value chain during crisis period;

- a proper crisis-management guidelines for passengers' and consumers' rights, based on the current related legislation and also on experienced best practices;*
- analysis of existing rules to better cater for times of exceptional circumstances (i.e: passenger rights directive, package directive, slots, state aid, visa rules, travellers taxes) ;*
- a clear guidance for Member States on coordinated repatriation of EU citizens, in terms of alignment of travel advice with local, regional and national governments;*
- to provide for guidelines and financial resources for planning post-crisis communication campaign and initiatives;*
- create reliable measurement mechanisms as flash Eurobarometer during exceptional periods for understanding the impact and to adapt for future trends;*
- to provide guidance to industry on how to communicate with the Media and with social network based on good practices;*
- guidelines with additional measures based on good practices taken by the tourism sector in exceptional circumstances to guarantee a full speedy recovery.*

The operational objectives are:

- to create a two-fold structure mechanism, as a crisis management team for tourism & travel: to be activated either for exceptional circumstances or when a particular operator is under particular imminent threat;*
- the establishment of the professional body or entitlement of a pre-existing body, in co-operation with the European Parliament, the European Commission, and the Committee of Regions, responsible for triggering the mechanism;*
- involvement of Member States on a voluntary basis, and a structural dialogue with the Council;*
- to provide for efficient support to the affected businesses in the tourism sector and to support and assist Member States in preventing and tackling unemployment in the tourism sector by also supporting online training during exceptional work suspension periods;*
- to provide for a special assistance and direct financial aid instrument for regions and areas depending mainly on the income from tourism;*
- Integrate big data into official data and create measurement mechanisms as flash Eurobarometer - joint forces with big players at the market for carrying out joint analysis using searches and bookings for a period;*
- to provide for business continuity advice to industry, such as toolkits to capacity building but also data analysis to foreseen future unexpected events;*
- to ensure a just repartition of responsibilities and a good cooperation between EU respective institutions/bodies, corresponding institutions at national, regional and local level and all relevant stakeholders' associations and organisations;*
- to create an annual cost-effectiveness analysis on the maintenance of this mechanism, which will be put in place only in strictly enumerated cases*

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Preparatory action within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No

283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

At EU level there is not any coherent, well-structured strategy, which can be a basis of an European-wide crisis management tool. The EC put in place different instruments to mitigate the impact of covid-19, however we need a single crisis management mechanism, with shared responsibility for the EU, the MS, regional and local authorities, all playing key roles in managing and maintaining the Tourism industry, in order to give a uniform European response to future crisis. The European Parliament accepted a JMR on Tourism, where this strategy was included and 587 MEPs voted with YES.

Draft amendment 251

==== CULT/5901 ===

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PA 07 19 06 — Preparatory action — Sport as a tool for integration and social inclusion of refugees

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 07 19 06	1 750 000	437 500	p.m.	1 185 500	p.m.	1 185 500	2 000 000	-185 500	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total	1 750 000	437 500	p.m.	1 185 500	p.m.	1 185 500	2 000 000	-185 500	2 000 000	1 000 000

Justification:

Sport initiatives aiming at integrating refugees and promoting social inclusion have proven to be successful in the European context as well as conflict zones and their neighbours. However existing programmes, even if open to social inclusion, do not provide sufficient support to sport organisations, in particular in terms of capacity building and possibility to work with non EU partners, in order to contribute efficiently to the integration of refugees through sport. These practices can be adapted and scaled to effectively engage refugee and host.

Draft amendment 252

==== CULT/5902 ===

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PA 07 20 02 — Preparatory action — Grassroots sports programmes and infrastructure innovation

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 07 20 02	1 500 000	375 000	p.m.	655 500	p.m.	655 500	2 000 000	344 500	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total	1 500 000	375 000	p.m.	655 500	p.m.	655 500	2 000 000	344 500	2 000 000	1 000 000

Justification:

Grassroots sport is a traditional and slowly evolving area. Participation figures indicate there is a rising mismatch between the supply of sports via traditional sports organizations and the demand for sports by individuals. The system of sports associations and clubs and their lack of innovation inhibits them from bridging this gap. This project aims to propose innovative solutions to make supply of sports meet the

demand of individual athletes on all levels. In addition, provide a sports innovation ecosystem for new ways of playing sports to be offered.

Draft amendment 108

=== LIBE/5815 ===

Tabled by Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PA 07 20 06 — Preparatory action — Roma Civil Monitor — Strengthening capacity and involvement of Roma and pro-Roma civil society in policy monitoring and review

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 07 20 06	2 000 000	500 000	p.m.	600 000	p.m.	600 000	1 000 000	250 000	1 000 000	850 000
Reserve										
Total	2 000 000	500 000	p.m.	600 000	p.m.	600 000	1 000 000	250 000	1 000 000	850 000

Justification:

The Roma Civil Monitoring PA requires further support as independent reports are needed besides MS reports to get a real overview of the impact of inclusion programmes and political commitments at different levels. In particular, appropriations must take into account the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic as additional monitoring and reporting will be required to ensure that the health crisis doesn't negatively affect Roma inclusion and the fight against discrimination of the Roma community.

Draft amendment 253

=== CULT/5903 ===

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PA 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 07 21 01							3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000
Reserve										
Total							3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000

Heading:

Preparatory action — Writing European

Remarks:

Add following text:

In a moment of increased global competition in the audio-visual sector, international cooperation in scriptwriting becomes ever more crucial to create works that can travel across borders. More cooperation is also necessary at European level to allow European players to scale up and face the increasing risk of 'brain-drain' of European audio-visual professionals towards non-EU countries.

The ambition of the proposed scheme is to respond to the need for European story telling suitable for co-production.

There is an untapped potential to foster a community of writers from all across Europe with comparable understanding of the craft of writing series for television. In addition, in order to bring out stories that

reflect our European culture, both the one that we have in common or the one specific to our different respective countries, we must encourage the emergence of strong teams of creators (e.g. Screenwriters, showrunners, other authors, etc.) from several European countries.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Preparatory action within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

In a context where the audiovisual sector has been severely hit by the COVID-19 outbreak the purpose of this new action is to support the prompt recovery of the audiovisual sector by fostering directly the creative process and notably the writing and creation of European TV series projects, which are intended to become future European co-productions. It aims at fostering the collaborative creation process within an intercultural context, bringing creators from different nationalities together.

Draft amendment 258

=== CULT/5908 ===

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PA 07 21 02

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 07 21 02							1 950 000	650 000	1 950 000	650 000
Reserve										
Total							1 950 000	650 000	1 950 000	650 000

Heading:

Preparatory action —A Europe-wide rapid response mechanism for violations of press and media freedom

Remarks:

Add following text:

According to the 2019 World Press Freedom Index compiled by Reporters without Borders, the European Union as well as the Balkans registered the second biggest deterioration in its regional score measuring the level of constraints and violations on press freedom. The 2019 report shows that the number of countries in the EU and the Balkans regarded as safe, where journalists can work in complete security, continues to decline.

With the deterioration of press and media freedom in EU Member States and candidate countries for several years in a row showing a worrying trend, it is crucial to continue providing concrete protection to journalists including fact-finding, advocacy, monitoring, informing the European public and awareness-raising through the pan-European rapid response mechanism on violations of media freedom.

The right to freedom of expression needs strong defence to protect democracy strengthen public discourse and guarantee an enabling environment for investigative and independent journalists.

The pan-European response mechanism on violations of press and media freedom will continue to make

violations visible and provide practical help to journalists under threat, in collaboration with European, regional and local stakeholders in the field of media freedom. The practical help must encompass tools to protect journalists under threat: providing direct advice and legal support as well as offering shelter and assistance so they can continue their profession. Delegates will be sent to affected countries and advocacy will support fighting impunity. Monitoring of the situation will provide reliable and comprehensive information to the public as well as European authorities. This will help promoting awareness raising and allow early warnings. Instruments will be adjusted according to individual needs on a case-by-case basis. This unique toolkit contained in the rapid response mechanism will prevent further violations and will improve press and media freedom.

The pan-European response mechanism has been funded over the last two years in the context of a pilot project. Building on the success of the pilot project and to ensure its continuity, the pan-European response mechanism shall now continue as a preparatory action.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Preparatory action within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

EU-Treaties establish obligations to guarantee fundamental rights, including freedom of expression and media pluralism. The mechanism shall serve these rights, supporting journalists under threat to continue their profession. The instrument is adjustable to individual needs case-by-case after a professional quick analysis of their current situation. It is an appropriate measure to reduce dangerous situations especially for investigative journalists. This preparatory action shall ensure the continuity of the pilot project with the same name coming to an end this year.

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Draft amendment 106

=== LIBE/5813 ===

Tabled by Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PA 07 21 02

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 07 21 02							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Preparatory action — Emergency support fund for investigative journalists and media organisations to ensure media freedom in the EU

Remarks:

Add following text:

The work of independent media organisations and investigative journalists is crucial to reveal wrongdoing throughout the Union and beyond its borders, including money laundering and corruption. Quality investigative journalism requires proper tools and resources. Yet, investigative journalists are

extremely vulnerable professionals with very limited resources.

The aim of this preparatory action (PA) is to create an emergency support fund for investigative journalists and media organisations to improve press and media freedom and to prevent violations thereof by supporting the production of quality independent journalistic content in the public interest, including through cross-border cooperation.

The PA should build on the successful IJ4EU 2018 pilot project (PP) which aims to ensure continued trust in independent media sources and the protection of journalists across the EU by providing EU funding for cross-border investigative journalism in the public interest based on an expert jury model.

The PA should promote pan-European, collaborative projects which contribute to bottom up change by modifying incentives for ethical and trusted journalism through innovative tools and processes. Such projects are particularly important in the midst of the Covid-19 crisis when the capacity for dedicated support of news organisations is limited.

Funding from this budget line should be accessible to professional organisations and associations, consortiums, editors, publishers as well as freelancers provided that they meet adequate criteria. To meet the needs of media organisations and to safeguard media independence, funding should inter alia be provided to cover expenditure for fact-finding missions, for trainings and tools contributing to the development of investigative capabilities, for TV-related investigative projects, for the subscription to software programmes correlating data and databases, and for the production of expensive documents required to support an investigation. Subject to strict conditions, the PA should also provide funding to cover a bail and/or the legal fees of investigative journalists concerned if they are clearly related to a past or ongoing investigation.

When necessary, this pan-European emergency support fund could also be used as a model for longer-term core funding for media organisations and investigative journalists under threat. It should be flexible enough to adjust to changing needs to ensure that they can perform their work safely and independently, thus ensuring the sustainability of media and a greater diversity of journalistic sources in EU member states and candidate countries.

The assessment of applications and the selection of beneficiaries from EU funding through this PA should be carried out by an independent expert jury based on clear and transparent criteria to ensure a high degree of trust in beneficiaries and audiences.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Preparatory action within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Despite being an essential element of any functioning democracy, independent media organisations and investigative journalists face numerous challenges, currently exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. The proposed PA should ensure the continuation of the successful PP (2019/2020) Investigative journalism and media freedom in the EU. Funding should be provided to support the production of independent quality journalistic content, to help and protect journalists under threat and, when necessary, as core support for media organisations.

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Draft amendment 152

=== AGRI/2842 ===

Tabled by Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PA 09 20 02 — Preparatory action — Environmental monitoring through honey bees

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 09 20 02	3 000 000	750 000	p.m.	900 000	p.m.	900 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 900 000
Reserve										
Total	3 000 000	750 000	p.m.	900 000	p.m.	900 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 900 000

Remarks:

Before paragraph:

It would in particular support effective actions under:

Delete following text:

~~Former item~~

~~This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the preparatory action.~~

Amend text as follows:

The objective of this **ongoing** preparatory action is to put in place a tool for collecting environmental data with the help of honey bees and bee '**products**'. ~~products~~. This will enable evaluation of pollution exposure and diffusion in the environment at landscape level. It will also enable evaluation of plant diversity across landscapes.

Despite ~~having large impacts~~ ~~the considerable impact of various environmental pollutants, in particular pesticides,~~ on human wellbeing and nature, there are still **considerable** ~~major~~ data and information gaps regarding **exposure to various environmental pollutants, in particular pesticides.** ~~exposure.~~ Honey bees come ~~into~~ **in** contact with diverse matrices due to their biological needs and behaviour. During their wide-ranging foraging activity (up to 15 km radius) they are exposed to pollutants present in the atmosphere, soil, ~~vegetation,~~ **vegetation** and water. Numerous plants are visited every day to collect nectar, secretions from sap-feeding insects, pollen and/or water, while plant gums are collected for propolis production. While flying they also come into contact with airborne particles, which stick to their body hairs or are inhaled via spiracles. Contaminants are brought back to the beehives and may be found in ~~the beekeeping~~ **bee** products, such as honey, wax, propolis, ~~pollen,~~ **pollen** and bee bread. **Besides pesticides, honey** ~~Honey~~ bees and their products could **be** also ~~be~~ an excellent tool for monitoring other environmental pollutants ~~besides pesticides,~~ such as heavy metals, particulate ~~matter (PM),~~ **matter**, volatile organic compounds (**VOC**) ~~or~~ and sulphur ~~dioxide (SO2).~~ **dioxide.**

Honey bees are already used as bioindicators of the level of environmental contamination. Studies have been performed using bees and ~~beekeeping~~ **bee** products as biological '**monitoring instruments**' ~~monitoring instruments~~ to measure environmental quality. Various levels of environmental monitoring with honey bees have already been described, **differing in their degree** ~~with varying degrees~~ of complexity and sensitivity. **Concerned about** ~~Prompted by concern for~~ honey bee colony losses, beekeepers, beekeeper technicians and scientists in **specific areas** ~~parts of Europe~~ **started** ~~began~~ analysing the contaminant content of bees and bee products. The results are often the same: bees are exposed to a wide variety of contaminants simultaneously and consecutively.

Furthermore, there are considerable knowledge gaps as regards plant species richness and abundance across various landscapes in the ~~EU Union.~~ Such knowledge is essential for evaluation of habitat quality as well as evaluation of pressures ~~that~~ different land uses may exert on habitats. Collection and analysis of pollen from beehives offers a promising avenue to gather invaluable data and information that can help to ~~cover~~ **elose** those knowledge gaps.

Environmental data and information generated through monitoring using honey bees would support ~~EU~~^{Union} policies in the following areas:

Add following text:

Public health and food safety

Plant and animal health, including bee health

Agriculture rural development, including beekeeping

Agricultural production and food security

Environmental protection (nature, air, water, soil)

Biodiversity

Delete following text:

- ~~Public health and food safety;~~
- ~~Plant and animal health, including bee health;~~
- ~~Agriculture rural development, including beekeeping;~~
- ~~Agricultural production and food security;~~
- ~~Environmental protection (nature, air, water, soil);~~
- ~~Biodiversity.~~

After paragraph:

It would in particular support effective actions under:

Add following text:

Directive 2009/128/EC on the sustainable use of pesticides

Regulation (EC) 1107/2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market

EU Common Agricultural Policy

EU biodiversity policy, including EU Pollinators Initiative

Directive (EU) 2016/2284 on the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants

Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions

Delete following text:

- ~~Directive 2009/128/EC on the sustainable use of pesticides;~~
- ~~Regulation (EC) 1107/2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market;~~
- ~~the common agricultural policy;~~
- ~~EU biodiversity policy, including the EU Pollinators Initiative;~~
- ~~Directive (EU) 2016/2284 on the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants;~~
- ~~Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions.~~

Amend text as follows:

In this way, environmental monitoring through honey bees would contribute towards the **implementation**~~achievement~~ of the Sustainable Development Goals (*SDGs*) **in the EU**,~~in the Union~~, in particular Goals 2 ('Zero hunger'), 3 ('Good health and wellbeing'), 12 ('Responsible consumption and production'), 14 ('Life below water') and 15 ('Life on land').

In 2018, the ~~European~~ Parliament *has* funded the pilot project 'Environmental monitoring of pesticide use through honey bees'. This preparatory action ~~would~~^{will} build on ~~this~~^{that} pilot project. It ~~would~~^{will} further

expand ~~its~~the scope to other environmental pollutants as well as monitoring of plant diversity. ~~This preparatory action would~~The preparatory action will be a citizen science **project, where**project in which beekeepers ~~would~~will play a key role by collecting samples from beehives.

Activities of the preparatory action:

Add following text:

The preparatory action would fund an-EU wide implementation of the monitoring methodology currently developed and tested by the pilot project. Furthermore, the action would look to expand the monitoring to other environmental pollutants as well as plant diversity.

Delete following text:

- ~~– The preparatory action will fund Union wide implementation of the monitoring methodology currently being developed and tested by the pilot project. Furthermore, the action will look to expand the monitoring to include other environmental pollutants and plant diversity.~~

Amend text as follows:

Specifically, activities under this preparatory action ~~would:~~will:

Add following text:

Explore how to expand the monitoring protocol to environmental pollutants beyond pesticides, and develop due modules in this regard

Implement monitoring protocol by sampling beehives across various land uses in all Member States

Carry out chemical and pollen analysis of samples

Develop IT infrastructure to create, store, manage, process and share collected data

This ongoing preparatory action passed a successful re-assessment to increase its budget by 2.000.000 EUR. The budget increase is requested by EC services and stakeholders in order to ensure its optimal and successful implementation. The increased amounts compensate for the cuts executed during the PPPAs budget negotiations in 2019 and thus restore the initial budget of the action.

Delete following text:

- ~~– explore how to expand the monitoring protocol to include environmental pollutants besides pesticides, and develop relevant modules;~~
- ~~– implement the monitoring protocol by sampling beehives across various land uses in all Member States;~~
- ~~– carry out chemical and pollen analysis of samples;~~
- ~~– develop IT infrastructure to create, store, manage, process and share data;~~

Amend text as follows:

The preparatory action and its results should be integrated in and help shaping new EU policies and programmes, including the Zero Pollution Action Plan and other actions within the EU Biodiversity strategy for 2030.~~This preparatory action will run for three years and will have a budget of EUR 4 000 000.~~

Justification:

Restoring requested budget level: Pesticides and other environmental pollutants have large impacts on human wellbeing and nature. There are considerable data and information gaps regarding exposure of humans and wildlife to pollutants in the environment. By building on an existing pilot project, this preparatory action will put in place a tool that uses honey bees for collecting data necessary to cover those gaps. In this way it will contribute to more effective EU environmental, health and food safety policies and actions.

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Draft amendment 61

=== ENVI/5410 ===

Tabled by Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PA 09 20 02 — Preparatory action — Environmental monitoring through honey bees

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 09 20 02	3 000 000	750 000	p.m.	900 000	p.m.	900 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 900 000
Reserve										
Total	3 000 000	750 000	p.m.	900 000	p.m.	900 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 900 000

Remarks:

After table:

07 02 77 54

Delete following text:

~~This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the preparatory action.~~

Amend text as follows:

The objective of this *ongoing* preparatory action is to put in place a tool for collecting environmental data with the help of honey bees and bee *'products'*. ~~products~~. This will enable evaluation of pollution exposure and diffusion in the environment at landscape level. It will also enable evaluation of plant diversity across landscapes.

Despite *having large impacts* ~~the considerable impact of various environmental pollutants, in particular pesticides~~, on human wellbeing and nature, there are still *considerable* ~~major~~ data and information gaps regarding *exposure to various environmental pollutants, in particular pesticides*. ~~exposure~~. Honey bees come *into* ~~into~~ contact with diverse matrices due to their biological needs and behaviour. During their wide-ranging foraging activity (up to 15 km radius) they are exposed to pollutants present in the atmosphere, soil, *vegetation*, ~~vegetation~~ and water. Numerous plants are visited every day to collect nectar, secretions from sap-feeding insects, pollen and/or water, while plant gums are collected for propolis production. While flying they also come into contact with airborne particles, which stick to their body hairs or are inhaled via spiracles. Contaminants are brought back to the beehives and may be found in *the beekeeping* ~~bee~~ products, such as honey, wax, propolis, *pollen*, ~~pollen~~ and bee bread. *Besides pesticides, honey* ~~Honey~~ bees and their products could *be* ~~also be~~ an excellent tool for monitoring other environmental pollutants ~~besides pesticides~~, such as heavy metals, particulate *matter (PM)*, ~~matter~~, volatile organic compounds (VOC) ~~or~~ and sulphur *dioxide (SO₂)*. ~~dioxide~~.

Honey bees are already used as bioindicators of the level of environmental contamination. Studies have been performed using bees and *beekeeping* ~~bee~~ products as biological *'monitoring instruments'* ~~monitoring instruments~~ to measure environmental quality. Various levels of environmental monitoring with honey bees have already been described, *differing in their degree* ~~with varying degrees~~ of complexity and sensitivity. *Concerned about* ~~Prompted by concern for~~ honey bee colony losses, beekeepers, beekeeper technicians and scientists in *specific areas* ~~parts of Europe~~ *started* ~~began~~ analysing the contaminant content of bees and bee products. The results are often the same: bees are exposed to a wide variety of contaminants simultaneously and consecutively.

Furthermore, there are considerable knowledge gaps as regards plant species richness and abundance across various landscapes in the *EU*. ~~Union~~. Such knowledge is essential for evaluation of habitat quality as well as evaluation of pressures ~~that~~ different land uses may exert on habitats. Collection and analysis of pollen from beehives offers a promising avenue to gather invaluable data and information that can help to *cover* ~~close~~

those knowledge gaps.

Environmental data and information generated through monitoring using honey bees would support ~~EU~~^{Union} policies in the following areas:

Add following text:

Public health and food safety

Plant and animal health, including bee health

Agriculture rural development, including beekeeping

Agricultural production and food security

Environmental protection (nature, air, water, soil)

Biodiversity

Delete following text:

- ~~Public health and food safety;~~
- ~~Plant and animal health, including bee health;~~
- ~~Agriculture rural development, including beekeeping;~~
- ~~Agricultural production and food security;~~
- ~~Environmental protection (nature, air, water, soil);~~
- ~~Biodiversity.~~

After paragraph:

It would in particular support effective actions under:

Add following text:

Directive 2009/128/EC on the sustainable use of pesticides

Regulation (EC) 1107/2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market

EU Common Agricultural Policy

EU biodiversity policy, including EU Pollinators Initiative

Directive (EU) 2016/2284 on the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants

Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions

Delete following text:

- ~~Directive 2009/128/EC on the sustainable use of pesticides;~~
- ~~Regulation (EC) 1107/2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market;~~
- ~~the common agricultural policy;~~
- ~~EU biodiversity policy, including the EU Pollinators Initiative;~~
- ~~Directive (EU) 2016/2284 on the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants;~~
- ~~Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions.~~

Amend text as follows:

In this way, environmental monitoring through honey bees would contribute towards the **implementation**~~achievement~~ of the Sustainable Development Goals (*SDGs*) **in the EU**,~~in the Union~~, in particular Goals 2 ('Zero hunger'), 3 ('Good health and wellbeing'), 12 ('Responsible consumption and production'), 14 ('Life below water') and 15 ('Life on land').

In 2018, the ~~European~~ Parliament *has* funded the pilot project ‘Environmental monitoring of pesticide use through honey bees’. This preparatory action ~~would~~*will* build on ~~this~~*that* pilot project. It ~~would~~*will* further expand ~~its~~*the* scope to other environmental pollutants as well as monitoring of plant diversity. ***This preparatory action would***~~The preparatory action will~~ be a citizen science ***project, where***~~project in which~~ beekeepers ~~would~~*will* play a key role by collecting samples from beehives.

After paragraph:

Activities of the preparatory action:

Add following text:

The preparatory action would fund an-EU wide implementation of the monitoring methodology currently developed and tested by the pilot project. Furthermore, the action would look to expand the monitoring to other environmental pollutants as well as plant diversity.

Delete following text:

- ~~The preparatory action will fund Union wide implementation of the monitoring methodology currently being developed and tested by the pilot project. Furthermore, the action will look to expand the monitoring to include other environmental pollutants and plant diversity.~~

Amend text as follows:

Specifically, activities under this preparatory action ~~would~~*will*:

Add following text:

Explore how to expand the monitoring protocol to environmental pollutants beyond pesticides, and develop due modules in this regard

Implement monitoring protocol by sampling beehives across various land uses in all Member States

Carry out chemical and pollen analysis of samples

Develop IT infrastructure to create, store, manage, process and share collected data

This ongoing preparatory action passed a successful re-assessment to increase its budget by 2.000.000 EUR. The budget increase is requested by EC services and stakeholders in order to ensure its optimal and successful implementation. The increased amounts compensate for the cuts executed during the PPPAs budget negotiations in 2019 and thus restore the initial budget of the action.

Delete following text:

- ~~explore how to expand the monitoring protocol to include environmental pollutants besides pesticides, and develop relevant modules;~~
- ~~emplement the monitoring protocol by sampling beehives across various land uses in all Member States;~~
- ~~carry out chemical and pollen analysis of samples;~~
- ~~develop IT infrastructure to create, store, manage, process and share data;~~

Amend text as follows:

The preparatory action and its results should be integrated in and help shaping new EU policies and programmes, including the Zero Pollution Action Plan and other actions within the EU Biodiversity strategy for 2030.~~This preparatory action will run for three years and will have a budget of EUR 4 000 000.~~

Justification:

Restoring requested budget level: Pesticides and other environmental pollutants have large impacts on human wellbeing and nature. There are considerable data and information gaps regarding exposure of humans and wildlife to pollutants in the environment. By building on an existing pilot project, this preparatory action will put in place a tool that uses honey bees for collecting data necessary to cover those gaps. In this way it will contribute to more effective EU environmental, health and food safety policies and

actions.

Draft amendment 63

=== ENVI/5412 ===

Tabled by Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PA 09 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PA 09 21 01							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Preparatory action — Harmonising Fee Modulation for Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes

Remarks:

Add following text:

According to the assessment by the European Commission DG ENV "The Commission considers this proposal to be rather a Preparatory Action, in support of the mandate of Article 8(5) of Directive 2008/98/EC on waste for the Commission to develop an Implementing act to adopt harmonised criteria for eco-modulation of fees to avoid distortion of the internal market as a result of application of varying criteria and levels of fees across the EU. In this case, a re-categorisation to B could be envisaged." Therefore, the proposal is submitted as a Preparatory Action for the purpose of the budget 2021.

Eco-modulation of fees paid by producers into organisations that implement the principle of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a key instrument to put the Circular Economy into practice. The principle of eco-modulation requires that fees paid towards management of waste should be modulated to reward producers for their efforts in designing their products to mitigate their impact on the environment or to provide disincentives for marketing less environmentally-friendly products.

This is a new obligation under EU law that applies to all EPR schemes established in EU law (e.g. packaging, electric and electronic equipment, batteries and cars) and in national laws (e.g. textiles, graphic paper, oils). With regard to packaging waste, all schemes already include some basic fee modulation (charging differing fees to producers for each packaging material and sometimes also for different types of plastic depending on their recyclability). Existing (weight-based) fee structures have led to a focus on light-weighting, which risks rewarding lighter but less recyclable materials. Only few existing schemes use a more advanced eco-modulation of fees (e.g. applying no fee to reusable packaging, higher fees for non-sortable/non-recyclable packaging, or higher fees for packaging with additives that disrupt recycling). Therefore, the schemes will need to undergo considerable reforms to comply with this new obligation and more effectively help to reach EU's environmental goals.

Article 8(5) of Directive 2008/98/EC on waste mandates the Commission to develop an Implementing act to adopt harmonised criteria for eco-modulation of fees to avoid distortion of the internal market as a result of application of varying criteria and levels of fees across the EU. This is also important to maximise the potential for positive environmental change, because the scale of the shift achieved by a certain level of fee modulation will be greater if it is replicated consistently across all Member States.

The application of a consistent signal using harmonised criteria will give a much stronger and clearer incentive for producers to change their packaging design than if different criteria were applied across Member States.

Given the extent to which products and packaging are designed for use in multiple markets (including

outside of the EU), the extent of the change in design brought about through fee modulation will likely depend on the magnitude of the financial incentive provided by the fee modulation; and the scale of implementation relative to the size of the overall market for which the specific product or packaging is produced. If all Member States were to co-ordinate, and modulate strongly (and at the same time) on the same aspect of packaging or a product, this would provide an emphatic and consistent signal which would be more likely to lead to a larger scale shift in design. Further co-ordination on both the announcement in advance of any such move, and providing a clear view to producers as to the way in which fees might increase further in subsequent years will both assist producers in preparing for the change, and maximise the impacts of modulation.

The producers of products subject to EPR schemes are also unanimous in their call for harmonisation at EU level of the criteria underpinning the modulation of fees and ensuring coherence with EU legislation and international standards. The adoption of guidelines by the Commission are not considered an effective tool. The introduction of eco-modulated fee systems in an uncoordinated way across the EU risks creating an additional layer of complexity for running and monitoring EPR schemes by the industry and administrations.

This Preparatory Action will contribute to identifying criteria to form a basis for harmonised eco-modulation fee criteria, in particular for packaging, that take into account the environmental impact of products and EU ambitions for a transition to a circular economy.

Expected outcomes of the Preparatory Action:

- Identify and analyse the effectiveness of the existing and new criteria developed in the Member States to eco-modulate EPR fees, in particular, for packaging.*
- Provide recommendations for harmonised criteria for eco-modulation of fees to provide for effective incentives to producers to design their products in a way that minimises their impact on the environment during use and at the end-of-life stage. With regard to packaging, these should be aimed at ensuring that all packaging is re-usable or recyclable in an economically viable manner by 2030.*
- Develop a proposal for an EU definition of recyclability as a basis for these recommendations.*
- Assess the feasibility of developing new EPR schemes at EU level for new products, or a universal EPR for all products in support of the foreseen new sustainable product policy announced in the EU Green Deal and the new Circular Economy Action Plan.*
- Assess the options to use the EPR as an economic instrument for the use phase of their products to facilitate sustainable products and services.*

At the end of the Preparatory Action, a report will be published, informing the European Parliament and the Member States of the findings. Research results will be translated in all official EU languages and made publicly available. A presentation of the research results will be organised at the European Parliament.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Preparatory action within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The European Green deal states that further action is needed to facilitate sustainable product policy, ensure that all packaging in the EU market is reusable or recyclable in an economically viable manner by 2030, reduce packaging waste and support the development of secondary raw materials markets. These are also

objectives pursued by the new Circular Economy Action Plan and the European Plastic Strategy of 2018. The Preparatory Action would make a valuable contribution to achieving these goals.

Draft amendment 54

=== ENVI/5403 ===

Tabled by Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 01 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 01 21 01							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Feasibility study on reduction of traffic-related particulate emissions by means of vehicle-mounted fine dust filtration

Remarks:

Add following text:

Despite of the existing legislation, air pollution remains one of the major environmental problems in Europe, see [1]. Thereby transportation is one of the main contributors for air quality issues within cities. Transport-related emissions cover nitrogen oxide (NOx) and carbon dioxide (CO2) caused by combustion engine vehicles as well as fine dust (particulate matter PM2.5 and PM10). Especially PM emissions will continue to be a challenge not only in the existing fleet with a majority of combustion engine vehicles. Even after full electrification of the fleet this challenge is likely to continue since electrification itself will avoid NOx and CO2 emissions, but will only have little contribution to fine dust emissions (PM2.5 and PM10), see [2]. This is due to the fact that only tailpipe emissions are avoided, but the main emitters of fine dust are considered to be brakes, tires and road wear, see [2-5] and the references therein.

In recent years, great efforts have also been made by tire manufacturers (wear optimized tires) and brake manufacturers (optimized materials and coatings) to reduce emissions directly at the source. However, the emission reductions achieved is not sufficient. Also the actual fleet renewal would be too slow to give immediate impact on the air quality in polluted cities. Therefore it has to be expected that also in coming years air quality issues will remain within European cities.

This indicates that other solutions are needed to reduce particulate emissions and improve air quality, beyond working towards the replacement of all conventional vehicles by electric vehicles or the incremental improvement of car engines and limitation of exhaust emissions.

In current legislation only exhaust emissions are regulated via European standards. Especially the regulations on emission limit standards Euro 5 and 6 for light passenger and commercial vehicles as well as EURO VI for heavy duty vehicles have introduced stricter emission limits for exhaust emissions, see e.g. [6]. Currently there are no active regulations for non-exhaust emissions, but most recently several working groups are in elaboration of regulations for tire and brake emissions, which are expected to be included in the Euro7 standard.

Lately it has been shown that also new upcoming filtration technologies have the ability to compensate part of the vehicles emissions, see [7-8]. The potential of these new approaches shall be addressed in this pilot project. The concrete filtration technologies to be investigated within this pilot project are

a. Brake Dust Particle Filter which consist of a housing and a non-woven media. It is mounted behind the brake caliper. Due to this mounting location the filter is able to confine particles in a non-woven filter

media directly after they are emitted at the contact area of the brake pad and the brake disc.

b. Fine Dust Particle Filter which is installed on the top of or underneath a vehicle. An installed fan actively conveys polluted ambient air through a filter media where the fine dust can be separated. In this way the filter is able to separate the own generated emissions as well as the emissions of ambient air and surrounding vehicles.

Both systems could in general be applied to all kind of vehicles, covering light, commercial and heavy duty vehicles. To maximize the impact on the overall air quality e.g. the entire public transport bus fleet, taxi fleets or delivery vehicles could be equipped with these solutions, cleaning the air while driving or charging. In this way these equipped vehicles are leaving the air cleaner than before.

Within the project, the focus is on particulate matter reduction by application of filtration solutions, confining emissions from brake (close to its source) and filtration of ambient polluted air through fine dust filters. Amongst the expected deliverables, this pilot project shall provide quantifiable evidence on how such systems have to be tested to assess their performance, which impact on air quality such filtration technologies can have and how these solutions can supplement the measures in air pollution control plans to provide clean air to residents.

Therefore the concrete and specific objectives to be achieved during the pilot project are:

1) Identification and assessment of the possible impact of retrofit filtration solutions for light, commercial and heavy duty road vehicles

A holistic technology review for filtration retrofit solutions for light, commercial and heavy duty road vehicles shall be provided, to give an overview on available solutions on the market, including their respective potential impacts identified in publications and studies.

2) Definition of a measurement procedure for the performance evaluation of active fine dust filters and brake dust particle filters

The performance of the described filtration systems do not only depend on their technical specifications but also on the environment in which they are operated. This includes environmental conditions like ambient temperature, humidity but also the current dust concentration since the separated particle mass of a filter is higher at higher concentrations. Currently there is no generally defined measuring procedure available to assess the performance of such systems and to be used for future regulations. Therefore it is the aim of this pilot project to build the experimental foundation for defining a measuring procedure. This shall be done via the following steps:

a. Laboratory tests evaluating the emission footprint reduction by brake dust particle filtration

The emission reduction potential by filtration of brake dust shall be evaluated. Due to the complex conditions in the vicinity of the brake and the wheelhouse, laboratory tests on an inertia dynamometer test bench shall be done as a first step, following the approach of the PMP working group. The laboratory tests shall comprise at least 3 vehicles, covering light and commercial vehicle brakes.

b. Additional field tests evaluating the emission footprint reduction by brake dust filtration

The complex conditions in the wheelhouse near the brake cannot be properly covered by laboratory tests. Therefore additional field test shall be performed for at least 3 vehicles, covering light and commercial vehicle brakes. Based on gravimetric measurement, the PM reduction under real-driving conditions shall be shown and compared to the laboratory results.

c. Laboratory tests evaluating the emission footprint reduction by active ambient air filtration systems

The volume flow rate through the active air filter system shall be determined for several driving velocities on the lab scale. The laboratory setup allows a reproducible testing independent on environmental conditions. Therefore wind tunnel experiments shall be performed. Based on the determined volume flow rates, the emission reduction can be calculated based on the knowledge of typical ambient duct concentrations. The wind tunnel tests shall comprise at least 3 vehicles, covering light, commercial and heavy duty vehicles.

d. Additional field tests evaluating the emission footprint reduction by active ambient air filtration systems

The reduction potential of the identified solutions shall be tested in addition in a field test under real-driving conditions. At least two retrofit solutions shall be tested and the PM10 and PM2.5 reduction quantified under various ambient conditions (temperature, humidity, particulate matter concentration, traffic intensity). The field test shall comprise at least 20 vehicles, covering light, commercial and heavy duty vehicles, in at least 3 European cities. The field test results should give indication for further legislation about the influence of environmental condition on the overall PM footprint of vehicles.

3) Feasibility study and demonstrator vehicle for integrated fine dust particle filtration systems

A feasibility study to investigate the possibilities to integrate the previously described retrofit solutions within future vehicles shall be performed. Especially it should be outlined up to which extent filtration systems can be integrated into the future fleet. A holistic technical review has to be given to estimate the overall impact on the vehicle emission footprint.

Further a prototype vehicle (demonstrator car) shall be build up which shows the integrated concepts and which can be used for further field tests.

4) Estimation of possible impact on air quality in cities

Within the previously defined field and laboratory tests, the performance of the filtration systems can only be assessed for a small number of vehicles. To transfer and to extrapolate these results to a possible coverage of the fleet, several scenarios shall be investigated via simulations, e.g. assuming that a certain percentage of

busses in public transport

inner-city delivery vehicles

private cars in the future fleet

will be equipped with these filtration systems. This will give a clear indication for the legislation which emission reduction targets can be achieved.

5) Lifecycle analysis

In order to evaluate the sustainability of the filtration systems under investigation, a life cycle analysis shall be performed for production phase, use phase and recycling phase especially including the aspects of CO2 emissions, primary energy consumptions and PM10 emissions during production. Further it shall be assessed how the filtration systems influence fuel consumption and thus greenhouse gas emissions.

6) Assessment of short-comings in the current measurement procedure and regulation as well as creating the basis for future legislation for non-exhaust emissions with a specific focus on retrofit solutions

Based on the findings a suggestion for future legislation shall be given. In contrast to past regulations for exhaust emission, the case of integrated or retrofitted filtration systems poses the challenge that a vehicle needs to be considered in a certain environment and cannot be characterized as an independent object. Currently this aspect is not taken into account in current regulations.

In this way, the pilot project will be a key enabler not only for realizing sustainable transport within the existing fleet, but it will also drive the development of solutions for clean electro mobility.

Furthermore it can boost innovation in the European automotive industry and catalyze the development of other retrofit solutions and products outside of the scope of this project (e.g. cabin air filter, helmet filter, etc.). At the same time the results can significantly improve healthy living and promote wellbeing of city inhabitants.

References

[1] European Environment Agency (2018) Air Quality in Europe – 2018. Report.

[2] Amato, F., ed. Non-exhaust emissions: an urban air quality problem for public health; impact and mitigation measures. Academic Press, 2018.

[3] Notter, B., et al. HBEFA 4.1.

[4] Timmers, V. RJH, & Achten, P AJ. Non-exhaust PM emissions from electric vehicles. Atmospheric Environment 134 (2016): 10-17.

[5] Kole, P. J., Löhr, A. J., Van Belleghem, F. G., & Ragas, A. M. Wear and tear of tyres: a stealthy source of microplastics in the environment. International journal of environmental research and public health (2017), 14(10), 1265.

[6] Regulation (EC) No 715/2007

[7] Bock, L., et al. The brake dust particle filter for fine dust reduction, Eurobrake 2019, Dresden, Deutschland

[8] Lehmann, M. J., et al. A setup for measuring passenger car brake dust particles emissions, Filtech 2019, Cologne.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

According to the EEA, air pollution is the biggest environmental health risk in Europe. A key generator of emissions is transportation. Particulate matter (PM) is mostly generated by brake, tire and road wear which is not regulated yet. Hence PM will persist to be a challenge even after electrification of the existing fleet. Currently, new promising technological approaches using filtration are known to reduce traffic related emissions as well as to improve the air quality in cities.

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Draft amendment 74

=== FEMM/6201 ===

Tabled by Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 01 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 01 21 01							800 000	400 000	800 000	400 000
Reserve										
Total							800 000	400 000	800 000	400 000

Heading:

Pilot project — EUSuperDaughterDays

Remarks:

Add following text:

This project proposal aims to encourage girls at school age to explore Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), develop affinities, increase interest and support motivation in learning, studying and pursuing a career in those fields. The recent COVID 19 crisis brought some science closer to the citizen so a certain interest was developed and this needs to be pursued.

It will be led through interactive events hosted in cities throughout the European Union Member States, with the aim of early encouraging school age girls (aged 5-12) to explore the exciting world of STEM at a timely stage to further advance interest and potential employment. It will also be closely linked with the technology used in everyday life so as to bring the theory close to practice.

Exchange of best practices between Member States will also be included in this education field, so as to link efforts with results.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The aim of the project is to challenge gender stereotypes and boost in the long term women’s role in digital transition, following also the Gender Equality Strategy scope, through involving girls from a young age. It takes into account the recent development in the ways of working following the COVID 19 crisis and the need to develop digital literacy and to promote it to ensure full participation of girls and women in the society and the economy.

Draft amendment 187

==== ITRE/5031 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 01 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 01 21 01							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project —Support service for citizens led renovation projects

Remarks:

Add following text:

The pilot project aims to overcome financial, legal and technical barriers to citizen-led renovation projects. We, therefore, propose the creation of a specific EU support service for Citizens Energy Communities (CEC) and Renewable Energy Communities (REC) new actors enshrined in the EU legislations able to catalyse citizens’ engagement in various aspects of the ecological transition, including renovation projects. The creation of such a service could build upon the experience of cooperatives that are successfully bundling projects at a neighbourhood scale. The support service would aim to strengthen community building, to scale up and replicate successful programmes. It should include:

- 1. A platform for sharing experience and models, in order to build strong community dynamics to mobilize European citizens around integrated building renovation and renewable deployment (through the tool of energy communities).*
- 2. Support for the development of investment plans, as identifying financing options is a key element for*

the creation of project pipelines. (Looking for commonalities in order to scale the development of citizen-led projects. Investigating the development of models supporting renovation in conjunction with renewable deployment.)

3. Providing evidence and indicators in order to raise awareness among existing energy communities about the value of energy renovations.

4. Providing technical assistance and coaching to citizens groups, existing community organisations as well as local authorities to set up citizen and renewable energy communities dealing with building renovation, access to home ownership and energy poverty.

5. Monitoring and supporting a strong transposition of Clean Energy Package provisions concerning Citizens Energy Communities (CEC) and Renewable Energy Communities (REC), which should be an opportunity for Member States to strengthen the role of citizens in the energy transition.

The goal of the pilot project will be to coach renewable and citizen energy communities through the process of creating and implementing a territory transition.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Renovating the European building stock requires engaging a broad coalition of actors and specific actions. Citizen and renewable energy communities can play an important role in bundling projects and thus making them attractive for investments. A ‘Support service for citizens led renovation projects’ will especially help to overcome financial, legal and technical barriers and create demand for integrated energy renovation of residential buildings, a hard-to-reach market segment of the buildings sector.

Draft amendment 46

=== JURI/6410 ===

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 01 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 01 21 01							700 000	400 000	700 000	400 000
Reserve										
Total							700 000	400 000	700 000	400 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Liability in AI systems: Making algorithmic data driven decisions and risk chains human readable and assessable - Towards Best Practices

Remarks:

Add following text:

Decisions, sometimes with far-reaching implications, are increasingly determined or driven

by technology rather than human decision-makers. This comes with new risks such as inaccuracy or bias and raises questions of liability. It is an ethical imperative that users of such systems explain to the individuals affected the logic and the consequences of their technology (transparency) and allow individuals to object to algorithmic decisions (human oversight). Despite some existing legal requirements, the practice on this matter varies widely, and there are no industry standards in place yet.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The Pilot project aims at analyzing existing practices for explaining and reviewing decisions determined or driven by algorithmic systems, and at establishing best practices that should be used more generally.

Draft amendment 47

=== JURI/6411 ===

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 01 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 01 21 01							380 000	190 000	380 000	190 000
Reserve										
Total							380 000	190 000	380 000	190 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Ethical AI: Machine Learning data and algorithm de-biasing strategies

Remarks:

Add following text:

Machine Learning (ML) as a technology uses great amounts of data to train a computer system to solve certain tasks. By ‘feeding’ an ML algorithm training data, it can be used to detect patterns. Common applications are the detection of credit card fraud, speech and image recognition, and certain decision support systems.

Bias in training data: An ML system can only infer information from what training data it has received. Some prominent examples exist that showed how biased training data can lead to bias in the results.

One informative example is of decision support systems provided to criminal courts in some US states. An analysis showed that it wrongly labelled black defendants as potential future criminals at ‘almost twice the rate as white defendants’. The bias was attributed to the fact that sentencing statistics used for training data ‘may exacerbate unwarranted and unjust disparities’ in the criminal justice system and society.

Algorithmic bias: Similarly, the design of the algorithms used can influence the outcome in unintended or unanticipated ways.

The Pilot Project creates a scientific study and catalogue of de-biasing strategies for the collection of

training data, for the detection and reduction of potential bias in existing data sets, and for the prevention of bias in the design of algorithms. In a series of events, it encourages science and academia, as well as industry to exchange strategies, with the aim of publishing them for sharing, improvement, and re-use.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The Pilot projects creates a scientific study and catalogue of strategies to reduce bias in the collection of training data for Machine Learning purposes, and the detection and reduction of potential bias in existing data sets, as well as the prevention of bias in the design of algorithms.

In a series of events, it encourages science and academia, together with industry, to exchange strategies, with the aim of publishing them for sharing, improvement, and re-use.

Draft amendment 208 ==== REGI/6250 ====

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 01 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 01 21 01							250 000	200 000	250 000	200 000
Reserve										
Total							250 000	200 000	250 000	200 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Civic Imagination and Innovation Centre

Remarks:

Add following text:

Civic Innovation and Imagination Center (CIIC) brings together the local government representatives, citizens and specialists from economic and academic fields aiming to support the debate the challenges and necessary urban transformations of the city. It is a communication, research and promotion tool, as well as an open place for debates at the disposal of experts from different fields and any citizen willing to participate.

CIIC coordinates and guides complex networks of participatory governance, including academia, NGOs, trade unions, professional associations. The Innovation and Civic Imagination Centre New sets the suitable context for debating ideas and newly-intended projects, as well as developing innovative solutions, based on the creative potential of community representatives.

It aims at dealing with community involvement in the local co-planning and co-designing processes.

The objective targeted by CIIC:

- Create levers (such as: public calls context, debates oriented towards a pressing urban problem) for bridging the gap between three key groups: administration, experts/ research/ academia and citizens

community.

- Communicate public intentions (in terms of urban projects) by pursuing a multidisciplinary approach to create cross-dialogue by including different points of view coming from: architects/ urban planners/ developers’ expertise and community organizers/ representatives and civil society.
- Address socio-cultural clashes by introducing facilitators/ moderators to analyse the dynamics of the local context.
- Offer support to local citizens or ‘the usual suspects’ to get familiar with the legal and normative local framework (in terms of planning and decision-making);
- Offer support to local communities to understand the planning and urban development process step-by-step;
- Set suitable communication channels and adequate messages together with a clear definition of the meetings’ objectives and expectations (Why are we here?).
- Follow-up on the public meetings by analysing and processing the collected information (a center manager should be in charge of logistics and curriculum content).

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Civic Imagination and Innovation Center is an independent structure with responsibility on promoting the participatory system of governance, based on the quintuple helix (public administration, private sector, universities, NGOs and last, but not least, citizens as end-users and beneficiaries.

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Draft amendment 238 === EMPL/5615 ===

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PP 02 20 01 — Pilot project — Model social impact approaches to social housing and empowerment of Roma: testing the use of innovative financial instruments for better social outcomes

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 20 01	1 000 000	250 000	p.m.	500 000	p.m.	500 000	3 000 000	2 000 000	3 000 000	2 500 000
Reserve										
Total	1 000 000	250 000	p.m.	500 000	p.m.	500 000	3 000 000	2 000 000	3 000 000	2 500 000

Remarks:

Amend text as follows:

Roma are one of the minority groups in Europe facing the highest rates of poverty and social exclusion. Despite measures introduced in the last decade, progress in the areas of housing, employment, education and health have either been limited, or moved back. These measures include notably the EU framework for Roma Inclusion introduced in 2011 and related National Roma Integration Strategies (NRISs)

~~since. Former item~~

Add following text:

Recent evaluations of progress in the last decade have demonstrated the weak link of available funding tools to strategic plans and objectives related to the socio-economic development and inclusion of Roma. Limited use of funding is also attributed to decreasing political commitment and lack of capacity of national and regional authorities in charge of managing these funds. Scarce use has been made of financial instruments (loans, guarantees) or innovative tools and partnerships to promote the socio-economic inclusion of marginalised Roma communities.

The need for a shift in approach is urgent. The current moment provides an important opportunity for piloting and building the case for innovative, impact-oriented approaches as direct input to the next generation of programmes (2021-27 InvestEU programme and ESIF programming) and strategies (notably the post-2020 EU strategy for Roma Equality and Inclusion).

The current HERO pilot aims to test such an innovative approach to address housing deprivation and support cohesive socio-economic development, with a focus on Roma, under a multi-country approach. The pilot was accepted by the Commission (DG ECFIN with support of EMPL) in 2019, as a way to test the model and help elaborate a possible integrated financial and advisory product to be deployed in pan-European approach under InvestEU in a further phase.

The Commission will partner with the Council of Europe Development Bank to implement the pilot in Slovakia, Bulgaria and Romania in 2020-22.

Scope of the action:

In each project site, the pilot will deploy integrated finance, combining support for micro- housing loans with tailored capacity building for target beneficiaries and public sector partners.

-The target beneficiaries typically reside in unregulated/ illegal settlements in the outskirts and face adversity in access to income/gainful employment opportunities, and to other inclusion opportunities.

- The pilot is testing a multi-phase model, which involves the preparation (in terms of financial literacy, motivation, employment assistance and life skills, and construction assistance) of Roma families on the path to home ownership and empowerment.

- At each site, the HERO pilot will support inclusive collaborations between public authorities, financial institutions, foundations and service providers, and the beneficiaries.

The Commission has reported to the Parliament it expects signature of contract with CEB in Q3 of 2020.

The Commission and CEB are in advance working to identify suitable:

- financial intermediaries in the pilot countries to deploy social banking activities (design of dedicated micro-loan products for vulnerable groups)

- social service organisations able to provide capacity building support in accordance to the common methodology to be elaborated under the project (employment and coaching support; financial literacy, savings programme)

- municipalities for the pilot locations in each country (responsible to provide land for construction or building stock to be refurbished; public services and utilities- water, electricity, garbage collection etc. after construction is completed).

In the process of activating and connecting stakeholders and actors from the different parts of the ecosystem, additional needs and opportunities are coming into light. There is need to support the sustainable employment creation element of the project, which could come from the transfer of social innovation from existing networks supporting integrated approaches from change-makers (e.g. Ashoka).

In addition, there is need to connect the actors on systems level, and further support the emergence of structural solutions for funding systemic change. The Commission could explore opportunities for bridging funders that would pool (non-return seeking) capital in dedicated vehicles to support system-

change interventions and social innovation processes in the HERO pilot sites.

Delete following text:

~~For concentrated groups of European citizens, housing deprivation has been a constant for decades. Roma are one of the minority groups in Europe with the highest rates of poverty and social exclusion. Despite long-standing efforts, including the EU framework for national Roma integration strategies (NRIS) for 2020, introduced as long ago as in 2011, tackling the socio-economic exclusion of and discrimination against Roma remains an objective.~~

~~The implementation of NRIS has hitherto largely relied on grant funding from European structural and investment funds (ESIF). The use of ESIF funds has unfortunately been limited by the lack of political commitment and capacity of national and regional authorities in charge of managing the funds. Scarce use has been made of financial instruments to date, such as loans and guarantees, to promote the socio-economic inclusion of marginalised Roma communities.~~

~~This pilot project is part of the Union's efforts to:~~

- ~~– Support social innovation and new, holistic approaches to social service provision, the empowerment of disadvantaged groups and delivering transformative solutions for key social challenges, in particular Roma inclusion;~~
- ~~– Stimulate cross-sectoral collaborations and social impact partnerships (public private and civic engagement) as a new avenue for public value creation;~~
- ~~– Pioneer the use of new financial instruments and blended support (financial instruments, grant and capacity building) for projects with high social externalities;~~
- ~~– In the longer term, support the development of the social investment market and social impact interventions through testing/refinement of a model which could be scaled up across Europe under, for example, the future single Union investment programme (InvestEU).~~

~~The InvestEU programme could be a game changer, with financial allocation to support social infrastructure (namely housing, health and education facilities), social innovation and social impact schemes. The next integrated investment programme of the EU could offer a significant opportunity to make progress in achieving the inclusion of Roma.~~

~~Scope of the pilot project:~~

- ~~– This project will develop a housing model solution and improved life opportunities for a selected group of marginalised Roma communities. The target beneficiaries will typically reside in unregulated/illegal outskirt settlements and face adversity as regards access to income/gainful employment opportunities and to other inclusion opportunities.~~
- ~~– In essence, this is a multiphase model which involves the preparation (in terms of financial literacy, motivation, job assistance and life skills, and construction assistance) of Roma families on the path to home ownership and empowerment.~~

~~Activities will therefore include:~~

- ~~– The provision of financial education, job assistance and life skills training for selected participants from a disadvantaged background who are enrolled in the programme;~~
- ~~– Support for savings schemes for each family, for about one year, to enable loan payments to be made for construction materials for new homes;~~
- ~~– Engagement with public authorities for the allocation of land for the intervention, and providing training to public authorities so that they can implement and manage inclusion/desegregation programmes and further provide social services to the local community.~~

~~This multiphase model will trial innovative approaches combining financial instruments (loans, guarantees, etc.), grants and capacity building assistance.~~

The pilot may be carried out in partnership with an implementing organisation. Under a single grant contract with the Commission, the selected implementing partner would channel the support via:

- A guarantee for de-risking portfolios of social housing loans to targeted beneficiaries, accounting for some 25 % of the budget; and
- Capacity building grants for NGOs providing coaching/mentoring services to municipalities, enabling the purchase of apartments/houses, constructions (provision of land and necessary infrastructure) and local Roma communities for financial literacy and construction training, employment and civic education, accounting for some 75 % of the budget.

Activities will be closely aligned with and complement current pilot projects for Roma inclusion (ROMACT), cohesion policy funding tools which could be mobilised as a result, as well as relevant desegregation guidance and holistic approaches to local development principles.

The pilot project will test and develop integrated social finance models as part of a multicountry, pan-European approach, possibly as a pilot for a combined financial/advisory product under the InvestEU Programme post 2020. This should complement cohesion funding support and reinforce the objectives of social inclusion, desegregation, access to education, employment support and regional development. It could also provide models for replication under social outcome contracting mechanisms.

After being tested at multiple sites with substantial Roma communities, it will expand to different locations within the countries with substantial Roma communities (e.g. East Slovakia, East Czechia, Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary) and be replicated in an urban context.

Activities will be closely aligned with and complement current pilot projects for Roma inclusion (ROMACT) and additional Cohesion policy funding tools which could be mobilised. The pilot project will also contribute to policy development in the area of homelessness and housing exclusion and support preparation of the post-2020 EU framework for NRIS.

Target groups:

- Marginalised Roma families, as one of the most excluded groups in Europe, whose fate embodies one of the most acute social challenges in central and eastern European countries and, indeed, the Union;
- Public authorities, financial intermediaries and social impact actors (foundations, service providers).

Justification:

The original budget of EUR 1.950.000 was substantially reduced to EUR 1.000.000 in 2019. The EC had officially communicated to the EP that this amount will be insufficient to develop and test the methodology in 3 countries as originally accepted. This proposal therefore requests the additional EUR 3.000.000. This top-up to the current budget would allow the comprehensive implementation in SVK, BG and ROM according to the scope outlined above. The multi-country approach is of utmost importance to support development under InvestEU and to ensure true EU value for the pilot, as intended.

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Draft amendment 188 === ITRE/5032 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PP 02 20 07 — Pilot project — Engaging companies for energy transition

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 20 07	875 000	218 750	p.m.	218 750	p.m.	218 750	875 000	218 750	875 000	437 500
Reserve										

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
Total	875 000	218 750	p.m.	218 750	p.m.	218 750	875 000	218 750	875 000	437 500

Remarks:

Delete following text:

~~Former item~~

Amend text as follows:

A European private-sector dimension will be developed to complement ~~existing~~**existing** bottom-up energy/climate initiatives of cities **and** local municipalities (e.g. the Covenant of Mayors). By engaging ~~leading (industrial and commercial) companies~~ **and especially SMEs** to form ~~an EU-wide~~ **an EU-wide** Union-wide (voluntary) movement, the scale, impact and synergies of actions taken by different levels of governance can be increased. ~~Voluntary incentives for action are needed as the share of CO₂ emissions from industry is expected to grow in relative terms compared to energy supply and road transport towards 2050.~~

Add following text:

Voluntary incentives will play a key role in reducing CO₂ emissions and action is needed especially among Europe's SMEs. Moreover, a range of support programmes for economic recovery following the COVID-19 outbreak will be needed, as this will be a decisive moment for businesses to revisit their priorities and investments. The initiative should contribute to channelling a fair share of companies funds into sustainable investments supporting the European Green Deal. Those include, among others, investments improving energy efficiency, sourcing of clean energy and deployment of demand response and sustainable technologies.

Justification:

Pilot project - Companies around the EU have been taking steps to decarbonise operations and embrace policies in line with the clean energy transition and, more recently, the European Green Deal. This initiative brings together private sector companies and especially SMEs to share practices and develop concrete scalable ideas in a post Covid-19 world. The proposal builds upon the existing Pilot Project and requests an increase in order to allow the initiative to have a stronger impact and involve more SMEs in times when many will be rethinking their priorities.

Draft amendment 189

=== ITRE/5033 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PP 02 20 08 — Pilot project — Developing artificial intelligence (AI) for diagnosis and treatment of paediatric cancer

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 20 08	1 000 000	250 000	p.m.	500 000	p.m.	500 000	1 500 000	750 000	1 500 000	1 250 000
Reserve										
Total	1 000 000	250 000	p.m.	500 000	p.m.	500 000	1 500 000	750 000	1 500 000	1 250 000

Justification:

The particularity of paediatric cancers being rare diseases necessitates a collaborative approach to collate and integrate the data collected in all Member States, including best practices and new technologies in order to further develop common solutions. Artificial intelligence and machine learning are future tools to digest complex data sets and foster precision cancer medicine for all young people in Europe. Development of

applications of Artificial Intelligence technologies will improve disease diagnosis, management, and the development of effective therapies.

Draft amendment 260

=== CULT/5910 ===

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PP 02 20 10 — Pilot project — Developing a strategic research, innovation and implementation agenda and a roadmap for achieving full digital language equality in Europe by 2030

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 20 10	1 800 000	450 000	p.m.	900 000	p.m.	900 000	2 000 000	100 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total	1 800 000	450 000	p.m.	900 000	p.m.	900 000	2 000 000	100 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Remarks:

Before paragraph:

Former item

Add following text:

The EU has 24 official Member State languages. In addition, there are unofficial regional languages as well as minority languages, languages of immigrants and important trade partners. Several studies have found a striking imbalance in terms of digital Language Technologies. Only very few languages, such as English, French and Spanish, are supported well technologically, while more than 20 languages are in danger of digital extinction. The recent study ‘Language equality in the digital age’, commissioned by the EP’s STOA panel, makes 11 general recommendations how to address this growing threat. It was followed up by the EP Resolution P8_TA-PROV(2018)0332, also called ‘Language equality in the digital age’ (a joint CULT/ITRE report), which was adopted by the EP with 592 votes in favour. The resolution provides 45 general recommendations, several of which follow the STOA study.

Technology-enabled multilingualism is missing one crucial and mission-critical piece – a strategic research and implementation agenda. The objective of this pilot project is to develop an agenda and a roadmap for achieving full digital language equality in Europe by 2030. In close collaboration with the European Institutions, the project will assemble all stakeholders (including industry, research, innovation, national innovation, national and international public administrations, associations), it will initiate a structured dialogue and public consultations, it will organise brainstorming sessions and conferences throughout Europe, it will pull together all initiatives that are currently operating in an isolated and fragmented way in order to produce a sustainable and interwoven strategy for human language technologies in Europe in all relevant sectors and areas of life: trade, education, health, tourism, culture and governance among others. This will also include an investigation of the impact of AI technologies on the linguistic landscape in Europe including the ever increasing brain drain of young talent to other continents.

Justification:

Technology-enabled multilingualism is missing one crucial and mission-critical piece – a strategic research and implementation agenda. The objective of this pilot project is to develop an agenda and a roadmap for achieving full digital language equality in Europe by 2030. The project will pull together all initiatives that are currently operating in an isolated and fragmented way in order to produce a sustainable and interwoven strategy for human language technologies in Europe in all relevant sectors and areas of life.

Draft amendment 76

==== FEMM/6203 ====

Tabled by Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 01							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Gender Balanced Entrepreneurship Mentoring: Ensuring New Sources of Jobs and Prosperity Through Entrepreneurial Learning, Digital Training, Mentoring and Coaching

Remarks:

Add following text:

A healthy, inclusive balance of ideas, viewpoints, and contributions are sorely needed to make entrepreneurship and the digital sectors responsive and representative of the entire population. This is important also to contribute to a successful European Green Deal, to have an economy that works for everyone, and to enable Europe to be fit for the digital age. The dearth of creative female entrepreneurial input is disturbing, and actions need to be taken now to ensure that more of their voices are heard, both now, and in the future.

Some 25 million SMEs are the backbone of Europe's economy, and represent 99% of all businesses in the EU. 'SME bring innovative solutions to the challenges like climate change, resource efficiency and social cohesion, and help spread these innovations across Europe.' Women constitute 52% of the total European population but only 34.4% of the EU self-employed and 30% of start-up entrepreneurs (Source: EU website) Furthermore, the businesses are more frequently found in sectors that do not scale up quickly, and remain small.

Female entrepreneurs require targeted policies and actions to exploit their full entrepreneurial potential. The main challenges are still: Greater difficulty in accessing finance than men (for instance companies founded by women received just 2% of the funding awarded by venture capitalists last year); access to information and training; access to networks for business purposes; reconciling business and family concerns; and adequate pensions.

Particularly in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic crisis, entrepreneurship requires the full political commitment of EU Members States, the European Commission, European Council and the European Parliament to adopt actions and implement related legislative proposals to commit to SMEs and female entrepreneurship. Since 2008, the European Commission tried to overcome the barriers that entrepreneurs are facing by raising awareness and inviting national governments to support and promote entrepreneurship through the Small Business Act and the Entrepreneurship Action Plan 2020. However, these policies unfortunately consider women only mildly in the equation. In addition, in the new SME Strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe, even though it is widely recognized in EU studies that there is a huge 'digital' gap between men and women, the SME Strategy only mentions briefly the need for 'gender smart financing'.

Technological innovation is responsible for much of the growth that enables rising prosperity. Entrepreneurial activity—starting a new business venture—is an important way for technological innovation to enter the economy and raise overall productivity. It is also a major source of job growth, offering new sources of job opportunities, and keeping the workforce fully employed. Proven tools can be

used to stimulating innovation and entrepreneurship, which include:

Entrepreneurial learning

In addition to equipping young people, and in particular girls and young women, with the skills needed for the 21st century, entrepreneurial learning can be an important gateway for solving the SDGs. Economist and labour market specialist Timothy Bartik argues that ‘entrepreneurship training has more scientifically rigorous evidence of effectiveness than any other economic development policy.’

Digital Training

In this Digital Age, digital skills are key factors for socioeconomic development and employability. Without them, it is difficult to participate in the economy and society, especially due to the digital transformation that the labour market is experiencing. Since many women need extra support in this area, the Pilot Project will develop new strategies to promote digital inclusion, literacy and the training of new female ICT professionals.

Mentoring and Coaching

Mentoring and coaching programs for women entrepreneurs have been used in the past, and continue to be successful. These programs need to be enhanced, retooled, and re-implemented on a larger scale to ensure that European women entrepreneurs who need mentoring and coaching can obtain it, particularly in the new post Covid-19 environment.

These four tools, which should also be included on a digital platform such as the WEgate, need to be developed and used in strategic ways to create an enabling environment for successful women's entrepreneurship. The Pilot Project will ultimately help reap the economic and societal benefits of enhanced female entrepreneurship, and enable our communities to prosper.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

There is an increased need to support more programs for women entrepreneurs. This Pilot Project could also have a long running and global future. It will be a pioneer project that can be disseminated not only within the EU, but also, for example, to Latin America. As WEP has ECOSOC (United Nations Economic and Social Council) consultative status, and liaises regularly with UN Women, WEP can ensure that they are aware of this Pilot Project, and of its potential for broad UN application.

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Draft amendment 128

=== IMCO/6357 ===

Tabled by Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 01							3 000 000	1 500 000	3 000 000	1 500 000
Reserve										
Total							3 000 000	1 500 000	3 000 000	1 500 000

Heading:

Fostering digitisation of public sector and green transition in Europe through the use of an innovative European GovTech platform

Remarks:

Add following text:

Former item

09 05 77 13

The pilot project involves proposing that grants be provided by the Commission to one or more NGOs in order to support initiatives for the swift removal of child sexual abuse material on the internet. It is important to help organisations already working proactively to build platforms and umbrella organisations so as to cooperate across all Member States. If stakeholders receive more funds, they will be able to cooperate more effectively to prevent the dissemination of such material. The pilot project will support cooperation between actors in the provision of training for staff, development of digital resources and exchange of information to detect and remove potential harmful material. As communication in this area needs to be safe and quick, such solutions should also be supported.

Objectives:

This pilot project aims to support public administrations in the adoption of cost-effective and flexible digital solutions through the introduction of the GovTech ecosystem to the European public sector.

By following and scaling up the GovTech platform model, public administrations across Europe can work together more easily to solve shared challenges and more cost-effectively adapt existing projects to their individual needs. This includes, where feasible, the use of open source licensing.

The use of the GovTech model across the EU-27 would offer the benefits of scale to both public administrations and providers of digital services, as stated in the New SME Strategy (2020). Moreover, this project would help to develop the European GovTech market and support the public sector to access tailor made digital solutions quickly and efficiently. By creating a hub for different public administrations, participating businesses and citizens will be able to collaborate and exchange ideas, best practices can be circulated, and project costs shared, thereby enhancing interoperability and cross-border cooperation.

At the same time providers, in particular European SMEs and start-ups offering environmentally friendly, cutting-edge technologies or innovative solutions, would gain recognition as trusted partners in the delivery of modern digital solutions for public services. The project should be developed making use of the latest standards of service design available and in dialogue with a wide array of stakeholders, including public bodies and SMEs from across the EU.

This would support the modernisation of public administrations across the EU, by reinforcing efforts to achieve Europe's green transition through a more efficient adoption of innovative solutions. It is also an important tool to engage EU citizens.

This initiative also aims at supporting the European Commission's objective to stimulate a digital transformation that will benefit everyone, including citizens and businesses. If fully implemented, the project will positively contribute to attaining the following EU objectives: (a) Digital Strategy, (b) New SMEs Strategy, (c) Industrial Strategy and (d) 'the European Green Deal'. This initiative also provides an important input into the new e-Government Action Plan, for which preparatory works are already underway, and as a response to the increasing digital needs. The innovative GovTech platform and solutions provided by cost-efficient and environmentally friendly enterprises will further contribute to the EU economic recovery, which is of critical importance in the post-COVID19 reality.

The project will achieve its objectives by combining top-down activities, bottom-up activities and direct research of citizens' views.

Top-down activities:

This action shall engage with public administration in a foresight exercise to promote the alignment of their strategies and implementation roadmaps of digital solutions. By doing so, the project will support the streamlining of public services and contribute towards Europe’s sustainable transition. The scenario building approach, combined with the sharing of success stories, will be used to reveal the dynamics of a fast-evolving ecosystem. It shall also identify where the use and joint sourcing of the digital solutions by public administrations may create new opportunities for SMEs and start-ups. This analysis will support efforts to use digital solutions in public administration to attain the EU's strategic objectives, including the fight against climate change and promoting the digital transition.

Bottom-up activities:

This action shall engage with the fast growing GovTech ecosystem to harvest ideas that help public administrations in adopting digital solutions. It will support the development or use of one common platform to gather challenges and allow other public administrations to contribute or form part of a consortium involved in a particular challenge and source solutions from providers. In the pilot phase, the action shall concentrate on ideas to support one or more of the EU's objectives as mentioned in the strategic documents presented by the EC in 2020.

For example: The Digital Innovation Challenge, launched by the pilot project ‘Reuse of digital standards to support the SME sector’, and approved under the 2019 budget, can be used as a source of inspiration given that this format has proven to be successful by engaging a wide ecosystem of players and crowdsource innovative ideas ().*

Direct research with citizens:

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, this action shall also use innovative service design methods to include the views of citizens in the above streams of work. This all-inclusive/ all-embracing approach shall try to unveil how citizens perceive the new opportunities offered by digital solutions in streamlining communication between administrations and citizens, or combating climate change and the role of public administrations in this process.

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(*) The Digital Innovation Challenge generated:

- +6.000 unique visits to its website
- Contact with +1.500 SMEs and Startups
- Dialogue with +320 SMEs e.g. in workshops, e-mails, info sessions
- +100 registrations to the challenge (30% conversion)
- +49 complete applications with innovative ideas around the reuse of solutions provided by EU Programmes (50% conversion) The top ideas touch upon (1) mobility / smart cities (2) CyberSecurity and (3) FinTech.
- +10 applications will be shortlisted and join us to a co-creation Bootcamp.

Justification:

The ideas at the core of the proposal have already been proven successful during a pilot in PL, DK and LT. Compared to traditional tendering processes, the pilot showed significantly higher engagement with SMEs (22 times more SMEs participated compared to SME involvement in regular tenders) and cost savings for public authorities (in one project, final costs were 98% lower than tenders submitted by multi-national competitors). Examples show that, given a level playing field and a simple system to engage with, European SMEs can provide best in class and affordable digital solutions.

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 01							4 000 000	2 000 000	4 000 000	2 000 000
Reserve										
Total							4 000 000	2 000 000	4 000 000	2 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project —Effect of energy efficient and solar power generating vehicles on grid capacity and charging infrastructure

Remarks:

Add following text:

As expanding the charging infrastructure and increasing grid capacity are important issues for the EU Green Deal to succeed, this can be improved from the demand side by increasing both the energy efficiency and on-board power generation to vehicles. Study programmes do mention both energy efficiency of vehicles and innovations on grid/charging infrastructure utilizing smart charging solutions. However, no studies have linked the combination of energy efficiency on vehicle-level, on-vehicle energy generation and the impact on charging infrastructure and tested this is real-life using pilot projects. The EU Green Deal has announced that 1 million charging stations are needed to keep up with the introduction of electric vehicles. Focusing on energy efficiency and on-board solar power generation might offer less energy demand on this charging infrastructure. Policy can then be adapted to fit this opportunity. Early studies show promising results. An increase of 20% to 40% of the vehicle efficiency for vehicles decreases energy demand of these vehicles by almost 60%. Additionally, a grid operator in the Netherlands has shown that investments in charging infrastructure for electric vehicles might drop by over 30%. This is a result of self-charging energy-efficient vehicles able to charge at a fast charging rate even on 220 – 230v grids. Energy flow models of RTOs could be used to determine this effect in greater detail.

The goal of this Pilot project is to assess the energy efficiency of personal vehicles, public transport vehicles and delivery vehicles (in terms of kilometres driven per kWh consumed), on the potential for on-board solar power generation by experimenting with real-life use cases. This pilot project will be one of the first experiments with on-board solar generation on a larger scale over different modalities and locations. The resulting charging requirements of each vehicle could provide evidence for strengthening EU policy on reducing emissions from transport further and faster. Such adapted policy moreover will stimulate the development of EU value chains for on-board solar power generation, which in turn has the potential to increase employment opportunities.

A comparative study will be conducted on charging needs of high and low energy efficient vehicles. The vehicles aim to have comparable specifications in terms of person capacity, load or volume. Besides energy efficiency, energy generating vehicles and non-energy generation vehicles will be assessed as well. Energy generation potential on vehicles differs per location, therefore different locations in the EU will be evaluated with a special focus on southern and eastern countries in the EU.

Finally, it will be assessed how specifically the quantity and spacing of elements in the charging infrastructure could be decreased. Concluding, this Pilot Project is able to yield insights in the effect of vehicle efficiency and on-board solar power generation which can provide added value to the drafting of EU policies to enable electric vehicles and stimulating EU value chains and employment in this field.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The proposal is to evaluate the correlation between the energy conversion economy and the on-board solar power generation capacity of electric vehicle modalities and the requirements that a vehicle has for energy demand from charging infrastructure. Energy efficiency combined with on-board solar power generation in a vehicle has a positive impact on battery range, charging speed (in terms of km/h) and will lower the owner's grid charging need in terms of energy demand.

Draft amendment 48 === JURI/6412 ===

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 01							400 000	200 000	400 000	200 000
Reserve										
Total							400 000	200 000	400 000	200 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Smart Contracts - European standards for automated transaction protocols executing contracts

Remarks:

Add following text:

The objective of this pilot project is to assess the technical and legal feasibility of the Europe-wide uptake of smart contract technology and establish requirements for smart contract protocols in order to allow for smart contracts to constitute legally valid contracts under the contract law of Member States. This pilot project should therefore assess what requirements must be met for smart contracts to comply with the principles of European contract law and safeguard the interests of European citizens and consumers.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Smart contracts are automated transaction protocols based on distributed ledger technology that govern the execution of the terms of a contract. As the uptake of such technologies increases, so does the necessity to clarify requirements towards smart contracts in order to ensure their full compliance with the principles of European contract law. An EU Pilot Project would explore common requirements throughout the Union, preventing fragmentation on the Digital Single Market as regards the validity of smart contracts.

Draft amendment 209

=== REGI/6251 ===

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 01							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Sustainable rural mobility for Covid-19 resilience and support of ecotourism

Remarks:

Add following text:

Across the EU, rural villages and regions suffer from chronic isolation, resulting in loss of cultural and economic dynamism, aging population, and a strong mobility dependence on individual transport. The COVID19 crisis has severely weakened these areas and created enormous challenges - i.a. for the European tourism sector. Pre-crisis trends show that there is a strong and growing demand for rural sustainable touristic destinations. Rural areas have significant natural, human, economic and cultural potential and their development supports regional growth. Offering sustainable rural transport solutions, whilst at the same time supporting the sustainability of touristic destinations away from mainstream pathways is a win-win situation, contributing to the reduction of negative transport-related consequences of tourism as well as promoting more sustainable mobility alternatives for the citizens in rural areas. Insufficient sustainable mobility choices often disincentivize tourists from choosing rural touristic destinations thus preventing the development of sustainable tourism. Insufficient connection to local public transportation networks also discourages the efforts of the local providers to offer sustainable and low-carbon destinations and activities.

The EU policy process of sustainable mobility in rural areas is still at an early stage of development. The pilot project will therefore draw on the success story of SUMPs in the urban context and establish a rural equivalent of integrative sustainable rural mobility plans including both the needs of local populations and tourists. The project will also build on the good practices identified through SMARTA and SMARTA 2 concerning sustainable shared mobility solutions interconnected with public transport and supported by multimodal travel information services. The new proposal will have a broader focus than the previous projects and would be complementary, focusing on interconnecting mobility needs, and extending to rural tourism mobility. A particular focus will be on the recovery of rural and remote areas in the post COVID-19 period. Building on SUMPs' guiding principles, the PP shall identify the respective 'functional rural areas' based on actual flows of people and goods as well as with the aim of interconnecting and promoting local sustainable tourism destinations. This twofold orientation will create synergies between mobility needs of local populations and tourists. Improving sustainable mobility solutions in the high season will create jobs for locals (both in the transport and in the touristic sector) and it will create seasonal income that will be able to finance permanent sustainable mobility solutions. At the end of the PP period, the assessment shall include levels of utilization and user satisfaction as well as GHG emissions reduction.

The PP will look at how to best organise and develop rural areas with their mobility solutions to connect with neighbouring urban agglomerations. This includes the mobility behavioural impact of changed labour markets, including companies' mobility plans and cross-border aspect, the impact of digitalisation as well as the green deal and its impact on sustainable smart mobility in rural areas as well as tourism.

Possibilities with links to other ongoing projects can be found by focusing on interoperability, inter-connectivity, inter-modality (including walking and cycling), sustainable regional development, cohesion, employment, Just Transition, digitalisation, research and development and innovation. Another link to existing European goals would be further research into establishing a European multimodal transport information, management and payment system. To further support rural tourism in Europe, the PP should work towards the development of an App/website providing recommendation of ecotourism based on the current location and supplied with information about distance and facilities in each ecotourism region.

The PP shall promote:

Carpooling, car sharing and e-bikes sharing interconnected with public transport

Demand responsive vehicles, receiving bookings via phone calls as well as digitally and pooling similar journey request to save energy and offer door-to-door transportation

Further digital and organisational solutions to increase frequency of passage in mountainous regions with dispersed villages

The PP will support local authorities and sustainable rural tourism providers to connect their touristic destinations to existing sustainable mobility networks and to adapt public transportation offers to tourists needs (time scheduling, frequencies, lines and modes coherence and information, possibility to buy inter-modal day tickets). The PP shall support the identification and promotion of activities and destinations that can be done/reached using sustainable mobility. For local sustainable tourism providers, the PP will make available EU financing to invest in sustainable mobility infrastructure connecting their destinations to local transport network such as:

New cycling and hiking tracks in combination with public transport

EU financing for e-bikes

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The goal of the European Green Deal to ‘leave no one behind’ and to ensure a ‘just transition’ needs to be applied also to rural mobility. This pilot project should therefore aim, on the one hand, to reduce CO2 emissions from transport and, on the other, to promote better mobility connections in remote and rural areas (including isolated regions), as well as capacity building. This should also specifically include people who cannot, or do not, want to own a car - e.g. women, young, elderly, disabled and socially disadvantaged people - to foster accessibility and inclusion.

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Draft amendment 210=== REGI/6252 ===

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 01							2 000 000	1 500 000	2 000 000	1 500 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 500 000	2 000 000	1 500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Supporting regions and cities in Latin America to promote more sustainable economic development policies

Remarks:

Add following text:

In its most recent report (February 2020), A Territorial Approach to the Sustainable Development Goals, the OECD argues that cities and regions must play a critical role in the achievement of sustainable development based on the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. In fact, they estimate that no less than 105 of the 169 SDG targets will not be reached without proper engagement of sub-national governments.

The territorial approach lies at the heart of the EU's efforts to promote sustainable development and to achieve the objectives enshrined in the SDGs especially through the regional and urban development programs supported under the EU's Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF).

In the countries of Latin America, there is equally a need to make progress towards promoting a more sustainable pattern of economic development and achieving the SDGs. However, this comes against a background of a need for more decentralization in an effort to promote greater involvement of the actors on the ground who are directly affected by the challenges, notably climate change.

The Pilot project will use the experience of regions or cities in the EU implementing programs supported by the ESIF in support of their counterparts, in Latin America.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The Pilot project will seek to explore ways in which the EU can help the authorities in selected Latin America countries, involving also the regional integration organizations, to develop subnational mechanisms for sustainable development policy and in that way to give added impetus to the process of decentralization and multi-level governance.

Draft amendment 447

=== TRAN/5518 ===

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 01							3 000 000	2 000 000	3 000 000	2 000 000

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
Reserve										
Total							3 000 000	2 000 000	3 000 000	2 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Enabling sustainable Management and Development of Ports in the Rhein-Main-Danube basin

Remarks:

Add following text:

The ports on the Rhein-Main-Danube basin are significant nodes in the logistics and transport chains that form the economic backbone of the Danube region. While efficient ports are vital to the socio-economic development of their hinterland, the related ship traffic, the handling of cargoes in the ports and the land-based hinterland connections can impact negatively the environment (i.e. pollution, CO2), the people and the economic potential of the port itself. Notwithstanding, ports are also affected by environmental impacts (i.e. climate change i.e. extreme weather events, sea level rise, floods, droughts). Increasing environmental and climate awareness creates new challenges for the sustainable development of ports.

These challenges require the ports to identify and implement new environmentally friendly and sustainable solutions including energy efficiency improvements, environmental strategies and monitoring tools supporting the transition to renewable energy and zero-emissions, as well as full compliance with relevant EU environmental and climate legislation. Having in mind one important goal of the EU Green Deal, the shift of cargo to IWT and rail, inland and sea-river ports in the Rhein-Main-Danube basin will become a focal point for a sustainable development of the TEN-T Rhein-Main-Danube corridor.

To best manage the challenges in an effective way, a two-phase approach is envisaged:

? Phase 1 – Pilot Project (PP) – addressing environmental impacts stemming from the port activities of selected river and sea ports in the Rhein-Main-Danube basin by developing and implementing specific tools (EMS) and by defining a port specific Action Plan for sustainable port operations.

? Phase 2 – Preparatory Action (PA) – building upon the findings of the PP and enabling the wide scale roll out of an integrated "Green Danube Ports Action Plan" as part of a new PA. To this end, the recently established coordination and collaboration platform, the Rhein-Main-Danube basin Ports Network (DPN) shall function as multiplying governance structure.

In the PP, seven (7) selected river and sea-river ports portraying a representative sample of the about seventy (70) ports of the Danube region will jointly address their environmental responsibilities through the development and implementation of Environmental Management Systems (EMS) as well as the elaboration of port specific Action Plans creating a nucleus for wide-scale roll-out of environmentally sustainable port management and operations.

While each EMS is unique to an organization's culture, structure, activities and environmental priority issues, within the project, the Plan-Do-Check-Act Model and the eco-management and auditing shall be transferred from the PP's beneficiary partners to other Rhein-Main-Danube basin ports as well as to identified target groups (users of the port, cargo owners, logistic service providers, general public). Therefore, an accessible generic framework supporting the planning of sustainable port operations, facilitating the mitigation of potential risks and encouraging Port Authorities and Port and Terminal Operators to engage with sustainability agendas and plan their port operations and future capacity expansions and emerging port infrastructure project in a sustainable and smart manner will be defined. The elaborated port specific Action Plans of the seven model ports shall serve as Good Practices for the followers. Some of the measures proposed in the Action Plans will be of commercial relevance and even be bankable. Their implementation with the help of loans shall be considered. Financial institutions like EIB, EBRD but also new means of finance (energy contracting, crowd funding) will be investigated.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Many ports in the Rhein-Main-Danube basin suffer from previous environmental pollution and backlog of eco-prevention & restoration investments. Developing a network of Green Rhein-Main-Danube basin Ports tackling environmental & climate issues in an integrated manner will ensure their sustainable development, in line with the EU Green Deal's Roadmap and key policies. Besides, the need to recover from the COVID-19 crisis by creating jobs and green growth reinforces the case for this PA which can be developed into an PA.

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Draft amendment 191

=== ITRE/5035 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 02

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 02							500 000	250 000	500 000	250 000
Reserve										
Total							500 000	250 000	500 000	250 000

Heading:

Pilot project —Study on the conditions of access and use of digital technologies by citizens: KNOW TO INCLUDE

Remarks:

Add following text:

This study aims to understand the difficulties that citizens face in accessing and using new digital technologies. Many households are experiencing financial difficulties, and access to and use of these technologies implies an investment in equipment, payment of network and/or technical services, among others, that are out of reach. The study should seek to identify and characterize the difficulties in order to be able to take appropriate policy measures to address them.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Innovation in the digital technology sector constantly changes the way citizens communicate, share,

consume and even behave, generating new social and economic relationships. They can improve citizens' access to information and culture, as well as provide them with a wider and more diverse choice of public and/or commercial products and services. But despite this potential, there is a huge discrepancy in access to these technologies, between countries, citizens and businesses, which is fundamental to understand.

Draft amendment 192

=== ITRE/5036 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 03

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 03							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project —5G Exposure Assessment

Remarks:

Add following text:

At present, there is no clarity on the methods of exposure assessment of the electromagnetic fields (EMFs) emitted by 5G-technology on workers and the general public. The main purpose of the pilot project would be to develop a methodology for measuring and evaluating this exposure that will be a basis for risk assessment. In measurement of 5G EMFs it seems necessary to apply a new approach to evaluate the exposure taking into account the specifics of the 5G standard. This project could include two exposure scenarios corresponding to the phased implementation of 5G technology.

The first case could take into account - non stand-alone 5G - the introduction of new 5G antennas running in parallel with existing 2G / 3G / 4G, in which case the evaluation will cover all existing technologies;

The second exposure scenario could include stand-alone 5G, and would need evaluation of 5G new radio (NR), taking into account massive MIMO technology and microcells radiating over the millimeter range.

The project could include the following activities:

- Development of methods for measurement and exposure assessment of EMFs emitted by sources in 5G technology;*
- Organization and participation in workshops for discussion of possible methods for evaluation of EMF exposure on population and for applying the best European practices in this area;*
- Pilot implementation of developed method for measuring and estimating radio frequency exposure from 5G technology; analysis and evaluation of the results;*
- Performing risk analysis for general population based on measurements and exposure assessment.*

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision

Justification:

There are growing public concerns over the possible health impact of 5G networks deployment within the EU. Consumers have the right to objective and science-based information on the thermal and non-thermal risks caused by the new waves of electromagnetic radiation as regards the 5G technology. The aim of the pilot project would be therefore to develop new methodology for exposure evaluation that would allow the relevant data to be accessible to the public.

Draft amendment 449 === TRAN/5520 ===

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 03

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 03							800 000	400 000	800 000	400 000
Reserve										
Total							800 000	400 000	800 000	400 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Single European Railway Area - Prototype Corridor Munich-Verona

Remarks:

Add following text:

This Pilot Project intends to provide support, knowledge and, in a later stage, invaluable lessons to accelerate the ongoing completion of the Single European Railway Area. The Pilot Project should identify and address shortcomings within the rail ecosystem by analysing one select route with a holistic approach centered on cross border operations.

The route for the Pilot Project should be the one between Munich and Verona. Three Member States (DE/Bavaria, AT/Tyrol and IT/Veneto) would be involved along the line that includes one of the flagships of the TEN-T infrastructure cross border construction projects: the Brenner Base Tunnel.

The holistic approach should ensure that all aspects and needs are identified and considered on an equal footing. The aim is to cover the entire transport chain. Ranging from customers, to transport operators, to RUs, as well as infrastructure managers and regulatory bodies.

The main goal is to establish a joint set of rules for the corridor infrastructure spanning three jurisdictions and eliminating the ensuing obstacles for rail traffic. Today, this type of joint arrangements are not foreseen by legislation. The actions required to prepare for this, and which could benefit other European infrastructure, should include:

Obligatory requirements to engage in collaborative decision making in rail traffic operations and to engage in binding performance agreements between all stakeholders in a (multimodal) rail freight transport.

Strategic allocation of rail infrastructure capacity for different types of traffic (i.e. several years in advance), in this case in particular for international rail freight traffic, taking into account the overall needs and requirements from Italy, Austria and Germany, and the alternative road transport transiting the Alps.

Capacity management and traffic management at the level of the proposed corridor, e.g. by ensuring governance or appointing a supra-national entity in charge of defining and imposing such rules and

procedures in a binding manner.

Requirements for joint decision-making by rail regulatory bodies as concerns international traffic going beyond the provisions on cooperation between regulatory bodies defined in Article 57 of Directive 2012/34/EU.

Joint centralised and automated traffic management, including interfaces with interlocking/signalling system, on networks of different rail infrastructure managers.

The methodology that emerges over the course of the work will be closely documented so the output will go beyond producing a recipe to optimise the pilot route in order to provide a European best practice guideline potentially applicable throughout the entire Single European Railway Area.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Despite an increase in freight volumes, the modal share for road and rail freight transport remained substantially unchanged during the last 20 years. Looking at future projections, road transport is expected to keep its predominant position. Since the key determinants for choosing a mode in freight transport are related to cost, time and quality of the service demanded and offered, this Pilot Project consequently aims to identify and address the main problems within the rail sector related to the key determinants.

Draft amendment 193
=== ITRE/5037 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 04

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 04							1 500 000	750 000	1 500 000	750 000
Reserve										
Total							1 500 000	750 000	1 500 000	750 000

Heading:

Pilot project —Addressing Public Concerns Related to 5G Technology

Remarks:

Add following text:

The main objective of the pilot project would be to investigate and analyze people's fears concerning the possible harmful effects related to the development of different generations in telecommunication - 2G, 3G, 4G, as well as with regard to the introduction of 5G technology.

The project could be carried out by applying modern tools for communication as an interactive methods (surveys, websites, press conferences, media, others), as well as by developing platforms, methods, electronic system for informing the population about electromagnetic fields (EMF) sources and real-time exposure. Methodologically, this can be done by organizing discussions on European level with the

participation of different countries at different stages of 5G-technology introduction, as well as experience in communication methods and providing information to general public.

To realize the aim of the project, it might be necessary to use the actual measurement data obtained in urban areas in order to analyze the adequacy of changes in the fears of the population.

The project could include the following activities:

- Literature review of the available scientific knowledge in the field of 5G: implementation, international policies, public concern, health effects, exposure assessment, etc.
- Development of an electronic system for the sources of RF radiation including technical information for new telecommunication generation (5G)
- Study of the public concern related to the introduction of 5G-technology in member states
- Analysis of the public concern on the base of real data of RF exposure in urban areas.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The forthcoming 5G deployment within the EU is expected to bring new opportunities for citizens and businesses, but also new challenges when it comes to human health and environment. There are growing public concerns over the possible health impact of 5G networks deployment. The pilot project could help addressing the need for a specific legislation based on the analysis and the state of electromagnetic exposure from modern telecommunications technologies, in order to reduce both - health risks of these technologies and public concern.

Draft amendment 450 === TRAN/5521 ===

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 02 21 04

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 02 21 04							250 000	125 000	250 000	125 000
Reserve										
Total							250 000	125 000	250 000	125 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Integrated toll and vignette payment solution for non-commercial light vehicles

Remarks:

Add following text:

The Commission should examine the existing single and integrated payment solutions for tolls and road chargers for light, non-commercial vehicles and assess whether there is a need to promote such solutions and what the right way would be to do so without interfering with commercial interest.

The Commission could also provide an overview of the different road charging systems in Member States, and look into ways of enhancing the access of road users to the necessary information and increasing interoperability between different systems in Member States. Finally, the Commission could examine the possibility of creating a single payment solution for tolls and road charges in all Member States.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

There are different road charging systems in the Members States when it comes to vignettes and tolls for light vehicles. National payment solutions, online platforms and/or mobile application for purchasing vignettes or paying tolls, already exist in Member States, but so far, an integrated single payment solution for passenger cars has not been designed. The potential benefits for European citizens would be significant taking into account the extent of cross-border journeys by passenger cars.

Draft amendment 126

=== IMCO/6355 ===

Tabled by Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item PP 03 20 02 — Pilot project — Assessing the challenges and opportunities for market surveillance activities in relation to new technologies and the digital supply chain

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 03 20 02	300 000	75 000	p.m.	150 000	p.m.	150 000	100 000	100 000	100 000	250 000
Reserve										
Total	300 000	75 000	p.m.	150 000	p.m.	150 000	100 000	100 000	100 000	250 000

Justification:

Since the PP has only started in 2020, these additional appropriations would ensure proper implementation of the PP. In addition, since new perspectives are suggested on this substance, additional appropriations should be needed.

Draft amendment 259

=== CULT/5909 ===

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 03 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 03 21 01							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project —Pilot project - Media Ownership Monitor

Remarks:

Add following text:

Digital technology has lowered the entry cost to mass media and opened up a tightly regulated market to a whole range of new players. As, however, the business model of traditional media disintegrates with it, a trend towards concentration of ownership can be observed. While the Internet remains a technological tool for accessing an unlimited variety of offer - market failures, regulatory shortcomings and the nature of algorithmic news distribution lead to significant limitations of media pluralism, which is an important precondition for the freedom of information and expression.

Thus, transparency of media ownership is considered a key prerequisite for safeguarding these freedoms. It elevates the public's level of media literacy and enables meaningful concentration control and regulatory action.

The pilot project will

- Create publicly available, searchable databases for up to 6 European countries in the respective relevant languages to provide profiles of the most relevant media outlets that shape public opinion, as well as of the corporate entities and individuals behind. The methodology of selecting the sample, of data research, analysis and presentation shall be based on an existing one that is well documented, already tested and implemented in other parts of the world and thus can be considered as a widely accepted and legitimate instrument in this field;

- Feature a narrative part to accompany the database and contextualize the county-specific environment in which media operates, including a detailed legal assessment that is based on a widely applied template to allow for comparative global analysis;

- Include the measurement, computation and publication of up to ten indicators of risks to media pluralism in the legal, economic and technical domains, based on a reliable and tested methodology that builds on the already existing work of the MPM (Media Pluralism Monitor) in this field;

- Publish and promote the findings and its usage by means of the online resource itself, but also through supporting actions, such as launch events and press conferences.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Building on the lessons learned from the implementation of the Media Ownership Monitoring Pilot Project funded under the 2020 budget in the selected number of Member States, this Pilot Project will ensure, with additional commitment and payment appropriations, the implementation of the Media Ownership Monitor in at least the same number of additional Member States as those covered by the 2020 project.”

Draft amendment 35

=== ECON/6109 ===

Tabled by Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 03 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 03 21 01							400 000	200 000	400 000	200 000
Reserve										
Total							400 000	200 000	400 000	200 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Monitoring the impacts of free zones and guidelines for future modernisation in light of the European Green Deal

Remarks:

Add following text:

To contribute to regional development and to increase competitiveness, some Member States have created free zones , which offer an attractive combination of tax-and-tariff incentives, streamlined customs procedures and/or reduce legislation. Despite free zones existing for years in the EU, there is only very few researches on their impact and few comprehensive processes for monitoring and evaluating their performance. In addition, free zones are being increasingly used outside the European Union, especially in developing countries, with the objective to attract foreign direct investments.

In July 2019, the European Commission presented a proposal for a Council decision to meet the OECD recommendation on enhancing transparency in free zones. While this proposal is welcome, this pilot project will help the Commission to develop an impact assessment of the most relevant free zones in the Member States, such as ‘logistics hubs’, zones specialised in a certain industry or ‘multi-activity’ free zones (a zone being a mix of the two or specialised in several industries). to analyse their direct and indirect economic contributions, their social and environmental impacts as well as their support to regional integration and competitiveness and weight them against an estimation of the costs of these free zones for all Member States in the Union. In addition, the project would compare the use of free zones in the European Union with their used by third country jurisdictions.

With the overall objective to look at whether the fiscal incentives of these free zones are effective, this study should specifically look at the estimations of job creation (and the quality of jobs created) and the impact of free zones in terms of foreign direct investments for the Member State (e.g. would these investments have been made in the country even without the free zone?). To the extent possible, the study could also look at the impact on the risk for existing domestic businesses to relocate from the national territory to the free zone and provide examples if it finds any. To the extent possible, the project should compare these results with existing literature looking at similar indicators for zones outside the European Union.

In addition, this study should include some reflection on how to develop European guidelines to ensure the social and environmental impacts of free zones are in line with the European green deal’s objectives. This project will develop proposals to ensure fiscal incentives by Member States are also conditional to a range of social and environmental indicators in order to drive existing and potential future free zones towards a sustainable development impact, e.g. for example specialising them into manufacturing activities in renewable energy or innovative products offering low-cost solutions to meet the Paris agreement’s objectives.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision

Justification:

The EU lists over 70 free zones in different Member States: some have several, when some have none. While created originally to promote regional development and increase competitiveness, certain free zones have raised concerns either by the Commission (e.g. state aid investigation) or by the European Parliament (e.g. PANA study on freeports). This pilot project aims at ensuring that the Commission assesses the impact and efficiency of these free zones, compare with their use in third countries and proposes improvement to align them with the objectives of the European Green Deal.

Draft amendment 55

ENV/5404

Tabled by Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 03 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 03 21 01							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — European Consumer Food Waste Forum

Remarks:

Add following text:

The amount of food wasted during its production and consumption is staggering. Currently it is estimated that 88 million tonnes of food waste are generated in the EU each year and the estimated costs of the wasted food are EUR 143 billion. While around 20% of food produced in the EU is lost or wasted, every second day some 36 million people cannot afford a quality meal. On top of that, the food waste has a huge environmental impact, accounting for about 6% of total EU Greenhouse Gas emissions and puts unnecessary burden on limited natural resources, such as land and water use.

Over 50% of food waste (47 million tonnes) is estimated to come from households and the consumer level. Household and consumer-focused interventions are, thus, essential to deliver ambitious overall food waste reduction, with significant environmental, economic and social benefits. According to Eurobarometer, consumers recognise that they themselves have a role to play in preventing food waste.

The Recommendations for Action in Food Waste Prevention developed by the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste already contains a list of recommendations for action at the consumer level. However, there is a clear necessity to develop these recommendations further, substantiate them by data and find new ways to educate consumers about their actions.

Therefore, the pilot project aims to mobilise a network of researchers and practitioners in the context of the already existing EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste to gather data and develop a variety of evidence-based, practical solutions to reduce food waste at the household/consumer level. The experts of the Forum will work on a set of evidence-based tools and recommendations on reduction of consumer food waste.

The experts of the Forum from the Member States will develop ways to bring closer multidimensional interventions in a variety of fields and will identify campaign tools, which can be applied to reduce consumer food waste. The campaign managers together with researchers will evaluate the effectiveness of various approaches. The multidimensional tools will include recommendations on nutrition, recycling,

publicity, donations, community actions, ICT solutions etc.

These recommendations will be multilevel, aimed at consumers directly, at national governments, local authorities, educational institutions, enterprises and other relevant target groups. The EU would act within its competences to offer databased tools, which can be implemented nationally.

The Forum will issue researched, evidence-based recommendations towards the reduction of consumer food waste and a compendium of best practices will be the desired result. The European Commission will coordinate the administrative part and it will run initially for one year, with a possible extension, depending on results.

Objectives and expected outcomes of the pilot project:

Review of existing measures related to consumer food waste in Member States;

Evaluation of identified existing activities based on their feasibility, reach and effectiveness;

Research and data collection on various actions to prevent consumer food waste;

Definition of research protocols and recommendations for further research, to be tailored and carried out on the national and regional levels;

Development of a multidimensional, multi-level, evidence-based set of tools that can be applied by Member States, regional and local administrations.

At the end of the pilot project, a report will be published, informing Parliament and Member States of the outcome. The report and the results of the pilot project will be translated in all official EU languages and made available to stakeholders in Member States. A presentation of the research results will be organised at the European Parliament.

This Pilot Project would clearly contribute to the EU’s efforts to address climate and environment-related challenges, thus aligning with the Parliament’s political vision for the future.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Food waste prevention is among the priorities of the European Commission and a key element of the European Green Deal’s ‘Farm to Fork’ strategy.

Furthermore, the EP’s resolution of 16 May 2017 on ‘initiative on resource efficiency: reducing food waste, improving food safety’ urged to facilitate stakeholder cooperation on food waste prevention initiatives emphasizing the importance of exchanging best practices and combining knowledge. Consumer education is recognised as a critical area where a concerted effort is needed to reduce food waste.

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Draft amendment 451

=== TRAN/5522 ===

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 03 21 05

	Budget 2020	Draft budget 2021	Council's position 2021	Difference	New amount
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	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 03 21 05							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Transparency in public procurement

Remarks:

Add following text:

A significant amount of public investment is spent through public procurement, and e-procurement was beneficial in fighting fraud, resulting in savings for all parties, increased transparency, and simplified and shortened processes.

In this context, the creation of a European framework for enhancing transparency in public procurement would be a crucial step forward. Such a framework could be implemented through the Tenders Electronic Daily (TED) website, which already allows access to public procurement notices and could become a valuable tool to analyze and expose procurement data (e.g. values of contracts awarded per country, per company, by sector of activity, etc.; number of bids per procedure; information about subcontracting, namely towards third countries).

The project should focus on improving data normalization, accessibility and transparency:

- retrieve, process and appropriately store data contained in the notices published, for improved search and generation of predefined and customised reporting;*
- implement user-friendly, clear and self-explanatory visualisation of relevant data in TED, using graphics, dynamic tools and machine translation;*
- further automatize exchange and validation of data between national authorities and TED in order to limit discrepancies and errors, reduce red tape and facilitate reuse;*
- privilege the use of normalized information, i.e. predefined lists of values rather than free text descriptions, and promote the use of key identifiers, e.g. buyer, seller;*
- collect expertise to find patterns and define rules to be used in building automated expert systems for infringement/fraud detection based on TED data;*
- gather best practices regarding automatized data exchange in the procurement workflow within and between Member States;*
- promote innovative projects to increase the completeness, accuracy, accessibility and readability of TED data.*

As the project is partly covered by the EU public procurement directives (Directives 2014/23/EU, 2014/24/EU and 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014), overlaps in implementation with these existing legal bases need to be avoided.

Furthermore, ongoing initiatives such as e-Procurement Analytics action under the ISA² programme and Big Data Test Infrastructure (BDTI) pilots, building block of the Connecting Europe Facility, should be taken into account for the implementation of this project.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

This pilot project aims to enhance transparency in public procurement as measure to reduce red tape and prevent fraud in spending EU money.

Draft amendment 130

=== AGRI/2803 ===

Tabled by Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 03 21 XX

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 03 21 XX							2 000 000	500 000	2 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	500 000	2 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Development of non-aversion stunning methods for pigs

Remarks:

Add following text:

The action will include the collection of information on the relevant socio-economic impacts of the most welfare-friendly alternatives, such as, but not limited to: investment and operating costs and return on investment required to shift to the new system(s); throughput per hour; meat quality and safety; occupational health and safety; sustainability.

The action will be concluded with a comparative analysis of the alternatives investigated both from an animal welfare and socio-economic point of view, in order to highlight the pros and cons of each alternative method under a common methodology.

All the results of this action will have to be made publicly available. The action will include the publication of one or more scientific papers in relevant peer-reviewed journals as well as technical factsheet for market operators. The action will also include the organisation of a final conference presenting the key findings.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Exposure to high concentrations of CO2 as a stunning method for pigs is currently allowed under EC Regulation 1099/2009 and is being increasingly used across the EU. However, this method causes acute and unnecessary suffering to pigs. In spite of the EFSA's recommendation to carry out more research on alternative methods, such research has lagged behind. Public research into alternatives that allow for better pig welfare at the time of death and that can be used in industrial operations is therefore urgently needed.

Draft amendment 131

=== AGRI/2804 ===

Tabled by Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 03 21 XX

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 03 21 XX							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Labelling on farming contribution to reduction of GHG

Remarks:

Add following text:

Pilot project on the introduction of an EU labelling highlighting the contribution of farmers to the reduction of GHG emissions through the implementation of environmental schemes supported by the Common Agricultural Policy or through the carbon market.

Three different levels of labelling would be put in place according to the degree of farmers' commitments:

1-"Climate-friendly farm" (transitional level towards carbon neutral).

2.-"Climate-neutral farm".

3-"Climate-positive farm"

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The project aims at improving the added value of farmers' efforts to reduce their GHG emissions. The reform of the CAP and the implementation of the Green Deal will require a stronger involvement of farmers to improve their contribution to the zero carbon objective. Although farmers emissions have been reduced by more than 20 per cent since 1990, still represent 10 per cent of the total EU GHG emissions.

This labelling may be complementary to the carbon tool that the European Commission intends to put in place and the new eco-schemes.

Draft amendment 194

=== ITRE/5038 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 04

Heading:*Space*

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 04 21**Heading:****2021**

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 04 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 04 21 01							1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000

Heading:*Pilot project — Pilot project - Pandemic EU - wide management***Remarks:**Add following text:*Add the following*

The COVID-19 EU-wide management needs long term support for the implementation of valuable monitoring of social distancing measures.

In consideration of the way the Covid 19 pandemics affected EU countries for both with regards the death toll and the dramatic impact that EU economies, the use of a European-wide geolocation based on the European GNSS system Galileo able to act as a point of contact between authorities and citizens could support countries to tackle this issue long term and provide significant socio-economic benefits.

The project aims at building an exit and post Covid-19 emergency strategies, covering also other potential pandemics through developing a spread monitoring EU standardized solution with EU-wide coverage and endorsed by Member States authorities. It would integrate national solutions designed for limited EU areas and synchronise with national ongoing initiatives such as "social distancing", 'mandatory quarantine' or "shelter in place".

The project must be coordinated with all Member States to get the specificity of each country and it could be endorsed by each local/national authority in their own language and integrated in their own IT infrastructure.

Civil protection and National Public Health authorities at the Member States level and at EU level should be involved in the development, in order to define the needs. These authorities will collect and manage the anonymized data at EU level.

Virtually all new smartphones sold in the EU are Galileo-enabled. Galileo will provide one of the most promising enhancements to position accuracy with the introduction of 'dual-frequency to refine position accuracy up to 1 meter level and thus be able to perform monitoring of the movements of the users and provide more accurate monitoring and statistics to the public authorities. Galileo will be supported by innovative methodology and technology (e.g. new algorithms and other sensors' data integration) using other proximity-indoor technologies such as Bluetooth, and cross check telecom operator data. In this way, once all different sources have been combined by means of AI algorithms, all these data can be

combined together in “heat maps” and provide in one single repository a more complete view to authorities.

The features of the project should in particular aim at:

- sending useful generic information and daily updates to users on how to behave during the emergency*
- offering users the possibility to interact with authorities and healthcare systems e.g. informing authorities about early symptoms or booking tests*
- sending a posteriori alerts to users who crossed their paths to users who have been later found infected, supporting thus the smart isolation and quarantine issued by authorities*
- creating a heat map with crowd-sourced location information from all users adequately anonymised and marks the ‘high risk infection points’*
- enabling the authorities to retrieve travel histories of the infected person and alert all the persons who had contacts with them within the contagion risk space and time window.*
- sending a preliminary alert to people entering within 10 meters of a location recently visited by an infected person*

The functionalities of the pilot project would have an added value for:

- the cross border and cross-regional cooperation, safeguarding uninterrupted movement of citizens and goods and avoiding large scale lock-downs (the pilot would involve several Member States/regions)*
- the scalability and the reliability of the information generated*
- better monitoring and control of the spread of the disease regionally or globally and thus facilitating related decisions, e.g. allocating the distribution of respirators to specific areas, support medical research, preventing cases of super spreaders, monitoring and verifying the digital mobility authorizations.*
- access to better statistics and artificial intelligence models based on the collected data about the spreading of correlated symptoms (i.e. not only based on confirmed tests)*

The pilot project will also explore possible integration with other sources or other applications based on bluetooth signals or data from the telecoms operators. All data collected and treated should be based on robust protection of privacy and data, including where appropriate on data anonymization and informed consent by the users. It should comply with EDPS recommendations with regards to the data collection feature and with all GDPR provisions in terms and conditions on allowing an individual collection of data in the pandemic situation.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The Galileo solution would be based on the good practices of Member States and would constitute a model for cross-border and transnational cooperation, avoiding thus existing fragmentation. The accuracy of 5-10m provided by standard mass market GNSS receivers (and between 20-30 meters in urban environments) is not perfectly calibrated and might generate a high number of ‘false positives’. Galileo’s dual-frequency GNSS means that the receiver tracks more than one radio signal from each satellites on different frequencies. Such capacity is a key Galileo differentiator.

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Draft amendment 354

=== ITRE/5053 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 04

Heading:

Space

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 04 21

Heading:

2021

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 04 21 02

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 04 21 02							2 500 000	2 500 000	2 500 000	2 500 000
Reserve										
Total							2 500 000	2 500 000	2 500 000	2 500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Safe navigation in inland waterways with Galileo/EGNOS

Remarks:

Add following text:

The pilot project would primarily aim at testing a coordinated approach in the Danube region Member States following the goals of the sustainable transport modes strategies such as safe inland waterways using Galileo/EGNOS services, and improving efficiency across the whole transport system; In short term perspective, the project would contribute to strengthening the cooperation between countries and regions, and the development of further joint action strategies.

Objective:

Harmonisation in the Danube of the use of EGNOS and Galileo within the existing River Information Services Platform and the inland AIS receivers, both in the shore stations and in vessels.

How:

River Information Services (RIS) is the platform used by the authorities to provide and receive information from vessels, and specifically inland AIS (Automatic Identification System) is the equipment used.

Need to Upgrade the AIS receivers in both the shore stations and in the vessels.

o Shore stations managed by river authorities will send EGNOS corrections via AIS to the vessels, so that the vessels can compute an enhanced position.

o Vessels will send the enhanced position back to shore stations applying EGNOS and also introducing authenticated information provided by Galileo satellites.

Benefits:

Increase Safety of Navigation thanks to the enhance positions of vessels computed with Galileo and EGNOS.

Support to accident investigations with the data gathered by the Automatic Identification System (AIS), where the position is enhanced with Galileo and EGNOS.

Cost savings for the authorities with the use of EGNOS instead of a dedicated reference receiver that computes differential corrections.

Timeline: 3 years

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Opportunity to boost the Danube Strategy through efficient co-modality and innovation to improve inland navigation transport, providing considerable economic development potential also for the neighbouring countries in the region and helping to reduce the transport bottlenecks and increase safety of navigation.

- Vessels in the Danube experience degradation in the position with GPS. Galileo and EGNOS services contribute by providing more satellites in view and corrections to the information provided by GPS satellites. Update of AIS in stations and in vessels is required.

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Draft amendment 211

=== REGI/6253 ===

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 05 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 05 21 01							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Revive and interconnect existing European land routes between European rural areas

Remarks:

Add following text:

The global tourism and leisure sectors have seen a growing demand for sustainable tourism and outdoor leisure activities in the past years. Furthermore, since the COVID-19 pandemic the way we deal with our surroundings is changing.

As exercising in indoor gyms is no longer advisable, many people are turning to outdoor physical exercise and leisure. The present Pilot Project aims to support this sustainable tendency and to strengthen rural areas by reviving and interconnecting European land routes. Historic land routes exist in many Member

States. Most of them are either in bad conditions or they are endangered to be asphalted in order to be used as ordinary streets.

Local populations are concerned about the resulting growing spatial and social disruption as well as the decreasing number of insects and birds resulting from steep biodiversity loss. Moreover, European rural areas and especially those profiting from touristic and leisure activities are hardly hit by the current lockdowns and will be severely struck by the upcoming recession. By preserving, restoring and interconnecting historic land routes, this Pilot Project will contribute to fighting biodiversity loss as well as to counteract recession within European rural areas.

Land routes build their own ecological system as they consist of trees, bushes and grasses which guarantee a natural space for the wildlife. Furthermore, interconnected land routes support local economic growth: if not asphalted, they become great destinations for walking, hiking and horseback riding tours- especially when these routes are embedded in an international network. Once mapped out, restored and interconnected these land routes will become a source of outdoor leisure and attraction for locals, nationals and international tourists, thus offering a completely new sustainable opportunity for economic development within the rural areas. Historic land routes also constitute a culturally valuable way of promoting sustainable mobility. The PP will link villages and connect neighbouring European regions, thus geographically and culturally bringing people closer together and contributing to the European project.

Implementation or what the pilot project should do:

- 1. Map the existing Land routes in Europe*
- 2. Create a framework that protects them from being asphalted*
- 3. Finance the restoration of decaying land routes*
- 4. Facilitate the interconnection of national land routes so to create European paths*
- 5. Create a European Digital Map showing the cross-border land route paths and their possible use (hiking, biking, horseback riding)*

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

This PP strengthens economic resilience and international attractiveness of European rural areas. It enables cooperation between European regions and creates sustainable alternatives to motorised mobility and mass tourism.

The project complements the objectives of European cohesion policies developing a sustainable cross-border infrastructure network. The PP equally contributes to the implementation of European Climate and biodiversity goals, creating environmentally low-impact and economic viable models for rural mobility as well as touristic and leisure activities

Draft amendment 212

=== REGI/6254 ===

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 05 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 05 21 01							1 500 000	750 000	1 500 000	750 000
Reserve										
Total							1 500 000	750 000	1 500 000	750 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Erasmus for Territories

Remarks:

Add following text:

The "Erasmus for Territories" Pilot Project aims at broadening exchanges among Europeans beyond the current young and student public.

Targeted public: locally-elected officials; administrative staff of regional authorities, particularly those involved in the set-up, management and carrying out of projects deriving from European funds; project promoters willing to replicate on their territory exemplary achievements implemented in other parts of Europe; or heads of innovative projects wanting to "export" their know-how to other European territories.

Envisaged actions:

- seminars and meetings

- contribution to actors' temporary mobility: on site studies of the 'projects of reference' in order to allow for reproduction on other territories, and/or help in setting up a local project inspired by one or several actors of the 'pilot/reference region'.

1/ It is a programme for thematic cooperation and not for integrated regional cooperation.

Protected littoral areas could be 'pilot territories' in terms of coastal protection and complementarity between such protection and economic activity, especially tourism, for example with the involvement of the Conservatoire du Littoral in France (or other Coastal Protection Agencies) which has been carrying out large-scale action there for many years.

Taking advantage of this experience could be offered to regions of other Member States that want to protect their coastline from speculation and concrete constructions. Here again, the territories concerned, from Greece to Portugal, via Estonia, are not intended to generate a cooperation programme that would include this theme in a broad and flexible way, as would the Pilot Project.

2/ It is a support framework for disseminating European best practices in specific sensitive areas, with a flexibility that makes it possible to respond to specific needs, including in the face of unforeseen scourges that require urgent action.

For example, in recent years Corsica has had to combat a parasite in its chestnut grove in the mountains, a disease which had previously appeared in the Italian Piedmont. As a result, Piedmont had a three years' lead in the treatment and regeneration of chestnut groves affected by this scourge. Erasmus for the Territories could have enabled Corsica to anticipate the crisis which could not fail to affect it in turn by taking advantage of the know-how acquired in the Italian Alps, by going there to study it, and by benefiting from supervision to implement it.

Faced with such an unforeseen event, no programme written in advance can provide the necessary reactivity to limit the spread of the parasite.

We can very well, starting from Life programs for example, or from programs included in the ERDF and the EARDF of certain territories, generate a dynamic of cooperation and exchange which would go further than simple restitution seminars, and which would boost the dissemination of best practices

between EU member regions.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The EU is willing to develop further European exchanges made possible by Erasmus in Universities. To this regard, Erasmus must expand to other sectors than education.

The territorial organisation of EU countries is diverse and poorly known; the exchange and replication of good practice is essential for an efficient regional development policy.

This PP will strengthen the sense of belonging of EU regions; it will promote their future cooperation and the acquisition of technical skills.

Draft amendment 213

=== REGI/6255 ===

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 05 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 05 21 01							500 000	500 000	500 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							500 000	500 000	500 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — The role of schools and local authorities in Smart, sustainable and inclusive growth through school gardening

Remarks:

Add following text:

The promotion of healthy fruits and vegetables is established in Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products, Section I, Chapter II, Title I of Part II: Union aid for the supply of fruit and vegetables, bananas and milk in educational establishments (the EU school scheme).

We believe that the implementation of this goal should not be centralised, since we are talking about the creation of school gardens, geography, social background and a long list of other aspects play an important role.

Therefore, we would like to do an experiment - a pilot project, where a number of handpicked local municipalities or schools apply for direct or indirect funding (not within shared management) to organise projects falling under the above mentioned regulation.

After the implementation of these projects, there should be a very strong evaluation phase, where indicators of real, sustainable and socially inclusive results will be drawn. The outcome of the evaluation phase will help us create more efficient ways to distribute EU funding. The final results might shed light

on prioritising profit for businesses delivering these products over the actual needs of school children. We might also understand why there is a lack of involvement of local authorities and civil society in strategic planning of issues that have a direct impact on them.

Cohesion Policy should find innovative ideas to improve access to inclusive and quality education. Community gardens in schools can teach pupils solidarity, respect for the environment and the principles of food waste, while it can help reduce differences between poor and rich by providing free lunches to all. School gardens allow teachers to have an outdoor classroom where students are given the opportunity to experience hands-on lessons in: biology and ecology, nutrition, recycling, composting, and community building.

Community gardens can increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, which is especially important in areas with limited access to grocery stores and farmers' markets or with limited financial resources.

The aim of this pilot project is to allow children to take responsibility for the environment and develop a strong sense of community. If we focus on the less developed regions, we can ensure that children have access to at least one nutritious meal a day, while they acquire skills that could later help them to make a living. If we focus on environments, where some students come from very rich and some from very poor families, the project can help build solidarity while reducing social differences when it comes to food.

Participating schools would be equipped with a technology lab, where they would build a school gardening app based on their own experience. On one hand, the app would allow schools all over the EU to join the gardening project by using resources shared by the pilot project participants, and on the other hand, building an app would enable children to learn an incredibly useful skill.

The app would include information about community gardening, as well as possible ways to use fruits and vegetables from the school gardens.

It's very likely that more than 65% of young people will work in jobs that currently don't exist, which will leave less developed regions even more behind. However, this project could allow them to exploit the benefits and opportunities created by digital transformation and drive smart, sustainable and inclusive growth through school gardens. Moreover, this pilot project will contribute to the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

The pilot project would contribute to the equality between men and women in less developed areas, as girls will be directed towards a more ambitious future regardless of their social background.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

There is a consensus about putting our true European values at the heart of the EU budget by introducing a rule of law mechanism clause applied to the whole 2021-2027 MFF, but it is necessary to find ways to invoke this clause while limiting the impact it would have on the member state's beneficiaries. In the context of the MFF negotiations and the rule of law clause, we are proposing a pilot project exploring more effective ways to use EU funds by giving a chance to local authorities, schools and civil society organisations to find new methods of implementation and evaluation.

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 05 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 05 21 01							2 500 000	1 250 000	2 500 000	1 250 000
Reserve										
Total							2 500 000	1 250 000	2 500 000	1 250 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Partnership between Member States, Regional and Local Authorities with Railway industry to decrease operating costs of regional and local railway lines with the support of GNSS technology

Remarks:

Add following text:

Europe is leading the world's initiatives toward sustainable environment and climate change mitigation through actions that entail for example a more energy efficient rail transport.

The European GNSS Global Navigation and Satellite System (EGNOS and Galileo), are cornerstones of the European transport policy as they provide ubiquitous, accurate and robust navigation solutions to users across multiple transport domains as well as in other non-transport related segments.

In parallel, Europe is investing in the development of the European rail traffic management system (hereinafter ERTMS), with the objective of harmonizing signalling systems in Europe. With the current maturity level of the European GNSS (hereinafter EGNSS) and its link with ERTMS there is wide margining to provide a European added value through cohesion policy to railway users.

EGNSS offers a unique opportunity to reduce costs of ERTMS deployment in Europe, especially at the regional and local level, for low and medium traffic density railway lines, and can help to keep the regional and local lines in operation. The deployment of a strong railway system can greatly contribute to achieving a cleaner transport system and reducing CO2 emissions and advance towards the 2050 climate neutrality objective.

At the same time, EGNSS can create opportunities for increased uptake of ERTMS outside of Europe, resulting in export and growth of railway industry and a high impact on European transport and connection SMEs, which represent an important segment of the European economy.

To take advantage of GNSS and reduce the infrastructure related cost connected with ERTMS deployment and operation, ERTMS must be modified in order to support satellite based positioning on top of the currently used physical balises. In order to allow fail-safe train positioning in the currently applicable ERTMS baseline, the physical balises need to be at present installed at all railway tracks every few hundred meters.

While some advanced railway stakeholders continue to develop the technical solution and work on the necessary ERTMS modifications needed to allow GNSS based localisation, many Member States remain passive in the transformation towards a GNSS and ERTMS merged system. Unfortunately, there are limitations in the margin of action EU Agencies such as GSA or ERA to fund more strategic projects aiming to increase involvement of Member states within this technological innovation focused topic.

The pilot project would primarily aim to activate partnerships between EU Member States, regional and local authorities and SMEs and their respective railway undertakings, infrastructure managers and where applicable also to the Member State railway industry, to advance towards the future integration of the EGNSS receivers. The main focus of the partnerships is to increase awareness, necessary for broader Member State and regional participation on the innovation actions aiming to use GNSS within future

evolution of ERTMS.

The objective of the pilot project shall be to further facilitate a structured dialogue between Member States, Regional and Local public authorities, national railway players and the EU railway industry and regional and local SMES, to help the Member States ramp-up the necessary knowledge and prepare for the future partnerships to deploy EGNSS-enabled solutions.

The project shall focus on:

- Preparation and launch of partnerships/working groups within Member States to address the topic of EGNSS based localization for ERTMS evolution
- Identification of the possible actions at Member State, regional and local level to support EGNSS inclusion into ERTMS
- Identification and analysis of the National barriers, approach and medium/long term strategy for the adoption of EGNSS enabled ERTMS within the Member States railway system, fostering the use of space-based solutions offered by the EU Space Programmes (Galileo, EGNOS)
- Identification of existing regional and local pilot projects to help stakeholders within different Member States gain trust in the technology and obtain necessary data for safety case/certification of the European GNSS based solutions, to engage user communities towards the use of EGNSS in ERTMS also leveraging R&D and advise in the implementation through Structural and Cohesion Funds and blended financial instruments

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The PP aims to create new partnerships at Member State, regional and local level to establish EGNSS enabled railway signaling within ERTMS to reduce the costs associated with the deployment of infrastructure such as physical balise-based train localization technology, which are essential for the development of strong regional and local railway systems, to guarantee a connected and low carbon economy in all Europe, but especially in Outermost regions, rural and depopulated areas and areas affected by industrial transition .

Draft amendment 215 === REGI/6257 ===

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 05 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 05 21 01							600 000	300 000	600 000	300 000
Reserve										
Total							600 000	300 000	600 000	300 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Testing advanced cross-border cooperation between local authorities: best practice centre

Remarks:

Add following text:

This pilot project aims to create a best-practice centre for local authorities who wish to enhance and explore cross-border cooperation. This would improve knowledge on the opportunities that enhanced local cross-border cooperation provides and the obstacles that local authorities face in this context, which we need to address in order to improve cross-border cooperation throughout the European Union. There have already been notable successes in cross-border cooperation in a wide range of fields, from healthcare to employment. Ensuring that these examples are spread and followed is key now.

This would entail an inventory of current examples of cross-border cooperation by local authorities in order to find those local authorities in the EU whose cooperation is more advanced and where there is a desire to deepen this cooperation. The selected authorities must be matched with experts in both local government and cross-border cooperation in order to draft and execute their plans. This process will lead to valuable lessons which can benefit the (local) authorities involved, encourage other local authorities in border regions to follow their example and give the European Commission input to (re-)design existing and new programmes in such a way that they give the best results on the ground.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

For most people, local government is the most tangible level of government, particularly in rural areas and border regions. Decisions become visible very fast and those who make policy are nearby and easy for citizens to reach. These advantages can and should be used to the benefit of cross-border cooperation throughout the European Union, and deliver concrete results of EU cooperation for citizens on the level they experience most. This pilot project will both enhance cross-border cooperation and deliver results for citizens.

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Draft amendment 7

=== AFCD/6429 ===

Tabled by Committee on Constitutional Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							1 200 000	500 000	1 200 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 200 000	500 000	1 200 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — BELE – Building Europe with Local Entities

Remarks:

Add following text:

This project will offer financing to facilitate the identification in local governments of a councilman

or councilwoman responsible for disseminating not only the programs and projects financed by the European Union in that municipality but also communicating to the citizens of his municipality the general political initiatives and measures carried out by the Union through periodical declarations to local media, debates and seminars.

European values and policies need to be disseminated to the widest audience, particularly in the context of the Conference on the Future of Europe. Once we will count with the Interinstitutional Agreement that will open up the Conference on the Future of Europe, this Pilot Project will complement the perimeter of this important event and will be adapted to this goal.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

This proposal, by involving in a permanent and systematic way potentially all local entities in the EU, can provide a substantial and measurable impact in terms of educating the public about the integration process, so often unknown or misunderstood, during the Conference on the Future of Europe. No other current EU program has this profile. The use of impact evaluation can be easily deployed in order to assess the success of this Pilot Project.

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Draft amendment 254==== CULT/5904 ====

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							500 000	300 000	500 000	300 000
Reserve										
Total							500 000	300 000	500 000	300 000

Heading:

Pilot project —Understanding the value of a European gaming society

Remarks:

Add following text:

It is widespread concern that technological advances (especially in the AI era) could create unemployment. However, although many jobs may be lost, new ones will be created. Gaming is transforming our culture and redefining the ways that young people consume entertainment. Gaming is rapidly becoming the most important and influential medium of our time.

There are now more than 2.5 billion gamers across the world that will spend \$152.1 billion on games in 2019. These numbers grow year on year at rates close to +10%. In Europe, 54 % of the EU’s population play video games, which equals to some 250 million players in EU and their average playtime per week, is 8.7 hours.

Games are not only an increasing economic and cultural powerhouse, but also the new social medium

where people get together for any excuse. To learn, to connect, to express themselves, to share knowledge and experience, and even to engage in new work or economic activities.

Sports are exploding and beginning to compete with traditional sports events. In 2019, more than 100 million people watched the 'League of Legends' World Championship, cementing not only its place as the most popular esports but as one of the most popular cultural events in the world.

Another example of the power of gaming is Roblox, an interactive blocky world that enables young programmers to make a living creating and sharing games in a community of over 120 million players, announced that its seventh annual Bloxy Awards ceremony staged inside Roblox's game world, drew more than 4 million concurrent players during the peak of the show, and raised \$100,000 for non-profits.

Just observing the facts and looking at the big impact videogames is already having in current generations, it seems quite urgent for our governments and policy makers to gain a better understanding of it, and to learn how could Europe play a smarter and more active role not only in its use but also in its creation.

Measures and outcomes

This pilot project will create an interdisciplinary European network of experts, thinkers and leaders willing to share their vision about the value and potential of gaming in the future of our society, our culture and our economy.

The network will hold a series of exchange meetings with stakeholders of key sectors and influence groups in areas like politics, finance, law, education, culture, science and health, looking to shape a European agenda for games.

In order to preserve the full independence of all the discussions and conclusions, it is important that the network stay from the beginning out of the influence of the commercial / economic driven entities and lobbies. These means that members will participate at a personal level and not representing a particular company or organisation

Observations and conclusions of all these meetings will lead to shareable reports that will point out strategic areas of collaboration between the games industry and the public sector, particularly at European level, in order to promote the understanding of the opportunities and challenges ahead for the European video game sector.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Creative Europe program gathers only one action to the video game sector, the development of European Video Games, with a very limited scope and a relative success.

However, we consider necessary to create a more comprehensive European agenda for games that would focus on understanding the importance of gaming in society and to help the creation of networks as meeting point of independent stakeholders, in order to promote the sharing of the opportunities and challenges ahead for the European video game sector

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Draft amendment 239

=== EMPL/5616 ===

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							1 900 000	800 000	1 900 000	800 000
Reserve										
Total							1 900 000	800 000	1 900 000	800 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Cross-Border Crisis Response Integrated Initiative (CB-CRII)

Remarks:

Add following text:

I. Context

The COVID-19 crisis is extremely challenging not only for inter-state relations, but also for relations between neighbouring territories divided by national borders. It has generated deep pressure on cross-border regions which represent 40 % of the territory of the European Union, and also on cross-border workers who represent 2 million people.

At the same time, the crisis revealed lack of cooperation and coordination across borders as well as strong interdependencies of border areas seen as functional areas. One decision on one side of the border has had a direct impact on the other side of the border.

At the beginning of 2020, the crisis first provoked uncoordinated border closures, as well as several uncooperative actions by both public and private actors. While some Member States decided to close entirely their borders, others drastically reduced the number of border-crossing points in order to slow down the spread of COVID-19. Although the free movement of people and goods is a cornerstone of the single market, the COVID-19 crisis has hindered the application of this key principle. Border bans or controls put cross-border workers, primarily in the health sector, but also in the field of construction, agriculture, or in the transport sector in an alarming situation. Border shutdowns have had a strong negative impact on cross-border citizens, the local economy, businesses, the transport of essential goods and cross-border public services (education, healthcare). In some city regions or even States like Luxembourg, where the health system is heavily dependent on cross-border workers, the interruption of cross-border public transport connections created complicated situations. The situation has also had an impact on trust between partners across the borders which has been built over the years, and which is essential for cross-border cooperation.

Despite many years of institutionalised (Interreg) and informal cooperation between border regions, the existing relations did not always allow an efficient and quick response to cope with the outbreak of such a crisis. Existing cross-border structures such as the European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation were rarely involved in the elaboration or in the implementation of emergency measures despite their knowledge on the functioning of administrative and political organisation on both sides of the borders.

Nonetheless, the COVID-19 crisis has also allowed the development of new forms and initiatives of cross-border cooperation, regarding particularly the healthcare sector. Several neighbouring regions to Grand Est (FR) demonstrated solidarity by welcoming hundreds of patients in their intensive care units and covering hospital transfer costs. In the cross-border conurbation of Gorizia (IT)-Nova Gorica (SI), although border controls were restored, the Mayors of these two cities continued collaborating and exchanging on this common emergency. Thanks to daily updates from the Mayor of Gorizia, Nova Gorica was therefore able to better anticipate the situation and to adopt faster measures to keep the number of people infected in Nova Gorica lower than in the rest of Slovenia. The cross-border Cerdanya hospital (ES-FR) positively benefitted from its double belonging to two different healthcare systems, allowing a sound supply of masks and medicines and the reinforcement of cooperation with larger hospitals on both

sides of the border (Barcelona and Perpignan), where intensive care units are available. Around Geneva, a new vignette for cross-border healthcare workers and dedicated traffic lanes were conceived in order to speed border crossing for these essential workers. These new forms of cooperation revealed the creativity and ability to reinforce cross-border cooperation.

Cross-border territories are unique laboratories of territorial cohesion and European policies. The experience of border regions during the unfolding COVID-19 crisis has illustrated a strong need for new solutions to empower cross-border territories in managing such emergencies. At the same time, this crisis is an opportunity to promote a new model of 'co-development' for integrated cross-border regions, by improving existing multilevel governance tools and by strengthening and establishing new cross-border public services.

II. Objectives

The overall objective of this pilot project is to improve the life of citizens in border regions by supporting more integrated and functional cross-border areas. Border regions are a very strong and visible example of the immediate effects of the COVID-19 crisis. Re-establishing border controls has hampered a whole eco-system. Therefore, based on a thorough analysis of the experience of border regions during the COVID-19 outbreak, this pilot project shall help border regions to better face future crises and to promote a new model of elaborating public policies, including public services, in border regions based on co-development and through improved multilevel governance. The pilot project combines therefore a short-term and a mid-term approach to provide practitioners and decision-makers with concrete tools and methodology that can be directly translated into reality, tangible for citizens, and applicable to all European borders.

III. Expected results

1. An in-depth assessment of the COVID-19 crisis management in all European border regions.

This assessment will give a comprehensive picture of the reaction and non-reaction to the crisis in border regions and their consequences. This implies gathering evidence and concrete examples on the difficulties faced by the border regions during the crisis, on the impact on different sectors and on cooperation initiatives emerging from the crisis. It should also analyse the role of existing cross-border structures in the management of the crisis. This assessment will make the EU able to objectively measure the costs of non-cooperation. Through collecting practical and statistical evidence (cross-border functional urban areas, ...), the analysis should also point out the strong interdependence of border territories, and should reveal that an uncoordinated measure on one side of the border has an impact on the other side of the border. Finally, it should point out the double nature of borders: boundaries of sovereign States guaranteeing the security of their own citizens; and local areas where people live; this requiring the establishment of sound multilevel governance of the border, involving local actors.

2. A platform mapping out cross-border public services, obstacles and solutions to cross-border cooperation.

The platform should have a strong operational aspect by collecting information on public services in different sectors in border regions (health sector, judicial sector, economy...). This would help in identifying the gaps, the needs and the existing structures to facilitate better integration of border regions. This platform should build on the work already carried out on cross-border public services (CPS), more specifically on cross-border public services operating in the field of civil protection and disaster management. Taking the health sector as an example, the platform may also gather information about the capacity of existing public services in the health sector, mapping key contacts over the borders and providing data on hospitals. Moreover, this online platform will provide an overview of obstacles and existing solutions to cross-border cooperation in different domains. It should build on the experience gathered during the implementation of other initiatives such as the b-solutions project. The conditions to secure the updating of the platform, on the basis of a European network, shall be defined.

3. An action plan to ease and to systematise solidarity across neighbouring regions.

Through this mechanism, border regions should be better equipped to react swiftly to different types of

crisis (pandemic, environmental, security, natural disasters, migration, terrorist attacks, etc.) impacting borders and requiring the coordinated action of national and local authorities.

Based on the lessons learnt from the COVID-19 crisis, and from existing cross-border mechanisms, Interreg projects, dealing with civil protection, a protocol model should be developed in case of a crisis to ensure the free movement of cross-border workers and essential goods, social protection, harmonised communication, etc. This protocol of actions involving national and local authorities should guide, step by step, decision makers' actions. The protocol should integrate the development of new tools such as a 'laissez-passer' for frontier workers that would be mutually recognised by neighbouring regions.

4. Boosting the potential of border regions through co-development, cross-border spatial planning and multilevel governance.

The COVID-19 outbreak has shown that often the socio-economic cross-border interdependence is not tackled by means of systematic and coherent cooperation between public authorities across the border. Thus, the management of cross-border regions requires multilevel governance, as these regions are deeply interlinked and they share joint interests. The co-development approach should guide the elaboration of cooperative public policies including common spatial planning and the development of public services in different sectors (health sector, mobility, education, etc.), including a sustainable system for funding cross-border investment and management. This should include issues such as the social and fiscal status of cross-border working (including teleworking, etc.), that has proved essential during the crisis. This implies strong and permanent dialogue between policy makers from different levels of governance, with the involvement of cross-border institutions. Nowadays, there are many political structures on border regions which encourage political dialogue. However, the COVID-19 outbreak has shown that existing structures had difficulties to react swiftly. Paradoxically, border regions that were the most integrated had difficulties to coordinate a joint response. The natural reaction of these regions was to close borders while an efficient response would have been co-ordination. Based on the example of the French-German 'Cross-border Cooperation Committee', created by the Aachen Treaty, a similar political platform could be replicated at all EU borders and could have three tasks:

1. Producing evidence of cross-border integration and flows, analysing the role of joint investment and of cross-border public services.

2. Working on the resolution of legal and administrative obstacles to cooperation through different mechanisms (bilateral agreements, the European Cross-Border Mechanism (ECBM), conventions, etc.) involving local and national authorities as well.

3. Joint development of a common strategy for priority projects including public services. This cross-border committee should reflect and act in a wide range of sectors that are essential for the development of both sides of the borders.

In the light of the COVID-19 crisis, such political platforms should also be in charge of a coordinated plan for cross-border multi-level management of crisis impacting cross-border regions.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Uncoordinated border shutdowns, due to the COVID19 crisis, generated negative socio-economic consequences for border regions and their citizens (30% of the EU population) while showing that these areas are deeply intertwined. This situation revealed the necessity of empowering border regions to respond to crises by elaborating an emergency action plan to ensure a more coordinated approach. At the same

time, the emerging forms of solidarity paved the way for a new model of co-development in these regions, by reinforcing cross-border public services, based on multilevel governance

Draft amendment 83=== FEMM/6210 ===

Tabled by Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							1 800 000	900 000	1 800 000	900 000
Reserve										
Total							1 800 000	900 000	1 800 000	900 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Study on Loneliness, focus on mental health

Remarks:

Add following text:

Worldwide academic evidence shows that loneliness, the absence of support networks or communicative skills have health (physical and mental) and social consequences on an individual level, as well as an economic impact on the working capacity of people and on the interconnectedness of society. Loneliness has many symptoms (e.g. depression) which sometimes get medical treatment, while the root causes of the problem remain unsolved. The effect of loneliness has been showcased on a large scale during the Covid-19 crisis, proving the negative effects of isolation on mental health. The impact of loneliness and the Covid-19 mental health issues will have a major impact on European’s demography, not only in terms of health and social connectedness, but also on the economy by way of productivity.

In a fast moving and changing world, with frequently more virtual than physical contact, especially during times of confinement, self-isolation or quarantine, with ageing and culturally diverse populations and with complex demands on the skills of workers an increasing number of people feel left behind. The individuality of society erodes into isolation and cumulate in loneliness. In the few countries, where loneliness studies have been carried out before the Covid-19 crisis, about 80% of the population states to feel lonely occasionally and a consistent 10-13% feel lonely permanently. Not only the elderly but especially the young population is deeply affected, with peaking numbers at the young adolescent age. At this moment, the few existing studies use different criteria, varying age groups and definitions. A comprehensive study using comparable data is needed to gain more insight in order to provide effective and sustainable solutions

Loneliness and its lasting effect on mental health issues occurs in every age and gender group, in most countries loneliness hits men harder, yet the data is sparse. Apparently, the East-West and North-South divide also reflects in the gender disparities, with mostly women reporting loneliness in the East, while more men seem to suffer loneliness in Western Europe.

Some EU countries have commenced an active policy to combat loneliness on national, regional or local level. Many initiatives have been launched by charity/phone projects, developers of housing of mixed age groups, living room meet ups for elderly people. Ireland, for example, has a national plan on tackling loneliness amongst senior citizens. The United Kingdom has launched a policy to tackle loneliness at every age. Yet, a European approach is missing and the disparities between countries are significant. A European framework as well as an EU-wide network and data are crucial to understand loneliness and its impact on the mental health of the population to then be able to counteract and find tangible solutions together with the regional and local level.

The Project

This pilot project aims to study and compare current national and regional loneliness policies, to gather comprehensive and comparable EU-wide data, to analyse the impact of the Covid-19 crisis on especially mental health and to coherently provide best practices and recommendations to combat the mental health issues related to loneliness.

The project is divided into four phases:

1) The first phase will be taking stock of loneliness studies and initiatives on local, regional and (inter)national level, be it private or public. These initiatives will be subject to analysis as to what extent and in which specific areas they are suitable to help to alleviate or prevent loneliness. An integral part of this first phase would be to conduct a comprehensive EU-wide study on the mental health impacts of loneliness based on existing and newly gathered data, including the (lasting) impact of Covid-19, disaggregated by gender differences and reflecting regional disparities.

2) The second phase will bring all the initiatives together in an easily accessible and user-friendly platform, to directly support stakeholders and afflicted persons and to provide information on road maps to alleviate loneliness.

3) The third phase will (virtually) bring together actors and stakeholders dealing with the topic of loneliness ('patients', organisations, unions, charity/volunteer organisations, policy makers, societal innovators). A summit will provide the opportunity to discuss aspects/root causes/symptoms of loneliness and its impact on mental health, different phases and profiles of loneliness (age groups, gender, cultural background, location, etc.) to define where and when loneliness starts as well as to debate the role of social media and digitalisation (online hate speech impact on mental health, etc).

4) The fourth phase will be a follow-up at EU level and will comprise the presentation of best practices and recommendations to combat the mental health issues related to loneliness, based upon the outcome of the former phases. A clear outline will be presented on focus groups and the most effective measures, on short- and long-term goals, as well as an overview of stakeholder groups.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Loneliness is a distressing and growing phenomenon with a wide range of negative effects, amongst others on mental health, as showcased by the Corona-quarantine. People increasingly feel left behind as a result of weakening social cohesion, digitalisation, income inequality and changes in communication. To effectively combat loneliness and its divisive effects on mental health issues, the EU needs data and an overview of current existing policies and best practices.

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Draft amendment 84

==== FEMM/6211 ====

Tabled by Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020	Draft budget 2021	Council's position 2021	Difference	New amount
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	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							200 000	100 000	200 000	100 000
Reserve										
Total							200 000	100 000	200 000	100 000

Heading:

Pilot project — STUDY: ‘Women for Europe: Women's contribution to the development of the European project’

Remarks:

Add following text:

A study on the impact that women have made in the development of the European project. This would include women from European Union Member States, which were active in various sectors (such as arts, science, society) and historical times and contributed in their own way to the European Union development.

The aim is to highlight their contribution to the development of the European project, by making their biographies and achievements better known, increasing their visibility and/or perhaps unleash some hidden stories.

Their achievements and contributions to the project should be highlighted and celebrated in a similar manner to the contribution of the founding fathers of the EU (Adenauer, Schuman, de Gasperi, etc). By highlighting these contributions, their paths could be source of inspiration and constitute role models for girls and women, together with an opportunity to make them better known in their own country as well as in other ones. This would also highlight the valuable contribution of women to the european construction at various levels and stages.

Their achievements would be put in light with their own historical, national and general context so as to reveal their true importance.

The findings will be gathered in a study, also available online, and could be followed additionally -as part of the project- with a related rolling exhibition of the main outcomes in the countries concerned during a 'European women history week'.

It contains apart from an equality part an education and promotion part as well as a euro-wide exchange in order to make better known parts of the history of Member States.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The aim of the study is to challenge gender stereotypes, and also promote gender equality as indicated in the Gender Equality Strategy through better knowing the history behind women's empowerment and their valuable contribution to big historical moments. It also has a specific importance to reinforce European feeling through learning about the history of the European Union through another lense.

Draft amendment 85

=== FEMM/6212 ===

Tabled by Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							800 000	400 000	800 000	400 000
Reserve										
Total							800 000	400 000	800 000	400 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Study on EU care services and on the feasibility of an EU care strategy

Remarks:

Add following text:

The study will focus on availability of care services for children, older people and persons requesting long-term care, including persons with disabilities, in each Member State, assessing:

- *The situation of carers with their needs (with age and sex-disaggregated data),*
- *The necessary infrastructure,*
- *Existing shortcomings, impact on women and their situation in the labour market,*
- *The impact of COVID-19 measures on care service provisions, followed up by the impact of economic crisis on the situation of carer's in the labour market (analysis with age and sex-disaggregated data),*
- *Recommendations for the future, also for the use of the resources available within the EU budget*
- *The added value of an EU strategy on care services*

The study would assess the situation in the EU, including the impact of confinement measures against COVID-19 on carers and produce recommendations for the future, also how the EU could be of an added value in terms of provision of care, possibly within the future EU strategy on care services.

It will be a first step to examine the situation in order to provide necessary feedback on the feasibility and on the shape of a new EU care strategy.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The provision of care varies across the EU Member States. There are also significant differences when it comes to available childcare by age group, elderly care and long-term care. While the provision of care is a Member State competence, the use of the EU budget and best practice sharing are of great benefit. Most carers are women and their employability in the labour market significantly depends on available care services.

Draft amendment 86

=== FEMM/6213 ===

Tabled by Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							100 000	200 000	100 000	200 000
Reserve										
Total							100 000	200 000	100 000	200 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Young carers in Europe: Who are they and what support do they need?

Remarks:

Add following text:

There is very limited data on young (adult) carers in EU Member States. Limited national statistics show that approximately 6-7% of carers in EU Member States including Sweden and the Netherlands are young carers under the age of 17. The 2016 census in Ireland revealed that children under 15 provided 2,2 million hours of care per year. In Italy there are thought to be close to 170,000 young people (15-24 years) with caring responsibilities. Young carers (under 18 years olds) and young adult carers (aged 18-24) provide care, assistance or support to another family member – a parent, sibling or grandparent affected by chronic physical or mental health conditions. According to EIGE, five times as many young women aged 15-24 are engaged in care work (including care for elderly, people with disabilities, and children) as young men in this age group.

These young carers carry out significant caring tasks and assume a responsibility that would usually be associated with an adult. Their education, health, development and well-being is effected by this work.

Juggling overlapping responsibilities, young carers and young adult carers find it challenging to attend and complete education. This goes against the Europe2020 strategy target of reducing the rate of early school leaving. Young carers' roles may be a source of overwhelming pressure, increasing risks for mental health problems, that further make it difficult to enter education or employment.

Currently, young carers do not feature in EU Member States' or European policy agendas. There is little awareness of their experiences and needs, few targeted policies or interventions, and no legal rights that address young carers. Young carers need specific support to their individual situations, targeted for them in addition to the other general support to young people by Commission. Young people taking on caring responsibilities are taking on responsibilities above their age.

Much more needs to be done accross Europe to: 1) research and identify young (adult) carers and know their numbers; 2) based on consultations with young (adult) carers, understand how their roles as carers affect their well-being. Specific research should be taken to identify the impact on the health and education of young carers, and how this may impact their further social exclusion and ability to secure employment.

Research should provide information on what support young carers and adult carers would want to have available; 3) determine how instruments such as the European Semester, ESIF, European Platform for Investing in Children, Youth Guarantee and Open Method of Coordination can be used to promote the development of integrated approaches for the identification, support and social integration of young (adult) carers across Europe; and 4) raise awareness, disseminate and make visible good practices with regards to identification, recognition and assessment and provision of support services for young (adult) carers.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of

the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Investing in children and young people is a social investment. We must ensure that rights of young (adult) carers are fulfilled, including the right to education, to highest attainable standard of health and to leisure and play. The research from this project will support the further development of the European Social Pillar and highquality implementation, for young (adult) carers, of its key principles, including the principles of equal opportunities, work-life balance and support to children.

Draft amendment 87

=== FEMM/6214 ===

Tabled by Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							800 000	400 000	800 000	400 000
Reserve										
Total							800 000	400 000	800 000	400 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Reintegration of Human Trafficking Survivors and Persons trapped in Prostitution: a search for the best approaches in the European Union in order to build an EU-wide network

Remarks:

Add following text:

The Pilot Project aims to get more insight on what the best approaches are in supporting reintegration of survivors of human trafficking and people trapped in prostitution and how the European Union could support this reintegration. In order to collect these insights, the project proposes four steps.

Step 1: Research in the organizations involved in reintegration projects

The first step aims to get more insight in the active organizations throughout the European Union Member States on the reintegration of survivors of human trafficking and people trapped in prostitution. A study of organizations on their relevance for the project will be conducted.

Step 2: Brainstorm sessions with NGO’s in different Member States

European Member States have different socio-economic situations, cultures and different policies on prostitution. All these factors influence the reintegration of survivors of human trafficking and people trapped in prostitution. Therefore, is it important to organize brainstorm sessions in different Member States with organizations who are active in the reintegration of survivors of human trafficking and people trapped in prostitution. The aim of the brainstorm sessions will be to get insight in the most important problems related to reintegration, possible solutions for reintegration and approaches and possible political solutions.

Taking the factors of socio-economic status, cultures and different policies on prostitution the following Member States are proposed to participate in the brainstorm sessions:

- *East European Member States: Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria*
- *West European States with a liberal policy on prostitution: Austria, Germany, Netherlands*

- *Member States where the demand to sexual services have been criminalized: France, Ireland and Sweden*
- *South European Member States: Spain, Italy*

Step 3: Organizing Roundtables with representatives of NGOs, institutions, governmental representatives and politicians in the respective countries.

Based on conclusions of step 2, it is important to discuss the best approaches for reintegration of survivors of human trafficking and people trapped in prostitution and how the European Union could support the reintegration. Representatives of NGO’s, institutions, governmental representatives and politicians will discuss the best approaches and possible European support in roundtables thus creating an EU-wide reintegration network.

Step 4: Report with conclusions

A report will be drafted based on conclusions of step 2 and 3. The report aims to entail recommendations for the best approaches for reintegration of survivors of human trafficking and people trapped in prostitution, and how the European Union could support the reintegration. This report could be the basis for a resolution in the European Parliament.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Prostitution is greatly gendered and a majority of women victims of human trafficking is trafficked into the sex industry. Prostitution is a system of gender-based domination and a practice of violence against women. Women are exploited because of their vulnerable situation and suffer emotional and physical abuse. The majority want to escape this unequal and abusive system of prostitution but lack finances, work skills, housing, trauma counselling and a social network to integrate sustainable into society. These women need practical and emotional support for reintegration.

Draft amendment 88

=== FEMM/6215 ===

Tabled by Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							1 000 000	800 000	1 000 000	800 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	800 000	1 000 000	800 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Establishing an EU app for domestic violence victims

Remarks:

Add following text:

The outbreak of the COVID-19 has shone a light on and exacerbated the pervasive and well known problem of domestic violence across Europe. Addressing domestic violence has long been problematic due to the fear and unjustified stigma victims feel, and the subsequent the lack of reporting and lack of data to inform concrete policy measures. Next to the measures that were in place before the crisis, some Member States have developed new measures to address the specific worrying situation of victims in isolation with their abusers where reaching out for help becomes even more difficult.

The pilot project aims to build on lessons learned during the crisis as regards the role technology can play as well as on the European Commission’s NON.NO.NEIN. campaign and have an overarching approach to reporting of domestic violence with EU added value. The project would fund the development and launch of a free app, which collates information and resources for women suffering from domestic violence for example information on warning signs of abusive behaviour, how to prepare to leave a violent situation, local shelters and national helplines’ contact details, legal rights and remedies etc. Crucially, women, through a discreet app, which could be disguised as something innocuous, would be connected to their national helpline through a real time chat service. An emergency button could also call for police assistance without the need to speak thereby avoiding alerting abusers in volatile situations. Furthermore, national services and NGOs supporting domestic violence victims would feed into the app’s design and be supported in connectivity of the app with their existing structures. The app launch should be accompanied by a European Commission awareness campaign to promote the app in order to reach as many women as possible.

This would provide a harmonized EU approach in helping to address and support victims of domestic violence. The European Parliament has previously proposed the establishment of a coherent system for collecting statistics on gender-based violence in Member States and this EU app could help to further inform national and EU policy making by having a more complete and accurate view of the domestic violence cases through anonymised data collection in full respect of the GDPR. This APP would collect evidence of domestic abuse in order to assist victims with applying for protection against abusers. Also to helps users better understand what is happening to them with recordings.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

This pilot project would build on the previous work done by the European Parliament and Commission to raise awareness of and combat domestic violence. It is in line with the Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025’s aim of ending gender-based violence, the Istanbul Convention, the UN Sustainable Development Goal 5 and previous calls from Parliament in its resolutions 28 November 2019 on the EU’s accession to the Istanbul Convention and other measures to combat gender-based violence and of 25 February 2014 with recommendations to the Commission on combating Violence against Women.

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=== FEMM/6216 ===

Draft amendment 89

Tabled by Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020	Draft budget 2021	Council's position 2021	Difference	New amount
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	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							400 000	200 000	400 000	200 000
Reserve										
Total							400 000	200 000	400 000	200 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Enabling greater gender budget responsiveness of the next MFF through a gender impact assessment

Remarks:

Add following text:

In order to achieve EU's core values on promoting gender equality as well as to implement the Gender Equality Strategy (GES) published by the European Commission on 5 March 2020, it is essential that a gender budget impact assessment is conducted to measure the impact of the new EU Multi-Annual Financial Framework (MFF). Although the Gender Equality Strategy reaffirms the EU commitment to gender budgeting and the Commission willingness to 'look at the gender impact of its activities and at how to measure expenditure related to gender equality at programme level in the 2021-2027 MFF', it does not include concrete budgeted measures to conduct a gender budget impact assessment. Such an assessment is necessary to assess the impact of budget proposals on gender inequalities and the fulfillment of girls' and women's rights.

EU institutions have identified gender budgeting as a need to achieve gender equality, and tools have been made available on how the EU could conduct gender budgeting (e.g. guide to gender budgeting produced in 2016 by the European Institute for Gender Equality). However, the EU has not undertaken an actual gender budgeting exercise of its upcoming or current framework. A comprehensive gender impact assessment is a critical step for the implementation of a gender budgeting approach and must be conducted at the outset of the new MFF.

Due to the COVID public health crisis, the Commission might publish a new MFF proposal. It is crucial that the Commission assesses how women and girls have been and will continue to be affected by the crisis, and ensures that the new MFF proposal addresses their specific needs, especially with regards to their access to health, but also to social protection, education and economic opportunities.

This pilot project therefore proposes the following actions to be taken:

- Identification of gender- and age-disaggregated data needed to measure the impact of EU policies and programmes on women and girls;*
- Collection of such disaggregated data when knowledge gaps exist;*
- Conduction of the actual gender budget impact assessment;*
- Based on the gender budget impact assessment, identification of programmes which could be gender-transformative or on the contrary could indirectly strengthen gender inequalities;*
- Adaptation of the new MFF programmes to ensure that they are gender-transformative;*
- Setting up of initial grounds for an ex-post evaluation of the MFF programmes impact on gender equality in 2027.*

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

To implement the GES and its objective of gender mainstreaming including gender budgeting, the EU must assess how its policies, programmes and funding impact gender equality. The GES does not include concrete measures to assess the new MFF impact on gender equality. This pilot project is therefore an initiative to fill this gap and ensure that resources and capacities are allocated to this assessment, as a first step towards ensuring that the EU achieves gender equality.

Draft amendment 90

=== FEMM/6217 ===

Tabled by Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							800 000	400 000	800 000	400 000
Reserve										
Total							800 000	400 000	800 000	400 000

Heading:

Pilot project — TOO MUCH PAIN: FGM Repair EU Action - Developing coordinated access to reparative surgery and psycho-social support for victims of female genital mutilation (FGM) in Europe

Remarks:

Add following text:

The aim of this project is to build and develop a European network of medical teams to provide an easier and wider access to reconstructive surgery and a comprehensive and holistic healthcare support made of physical, psychosocial and sexological treatment for victims of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

There is a need to join efforts and exchanging best practices at EU level among hospitals, health structures and civil society organizations to combat FGM and give the opportunity to victims to repair the integrity of their bodies and overcome the psychological trauma they have suffered. Due to the particular vulnerability of survivors of FGM, the surgery and the psychosocial treatment should be covered under basic insurance, since such services are needed because of a suffered violence.

FGM is also a European problem. Although it is concentrated in Africa, the Middle East and Asia, FGM is a global issue, and there are more than 600.000 girls and women living with FGM in the European region. It is therefore crucial that health care workers everywhere are able to recognise FGM and to treat girls and women effectively.

Women who have undergone FGM should have the possibility to use medical and psychological treatment, regardless where they reside in Europe. The situation of Member States is heterogeneous and fragmented: while some states provide clitoral reconstructive surgery under the basic health insurance scheme, others do not have enough medical staff currently trained for these types of surgery in their public hospitals.

The project consists of three phases:

1. Mapping

Review and map all gynaecology departments and reconstruction surgery units dedicated to FGM in all Member States, analysing best practices, such as the repair technique of Dr. Pierre Foldès in France.

2. Training & Building

Organise training sessions for medical teams - including surgeons, gynaecologists, obstetricians, midwives, psychologists and nurses and other Health-care professionals - on the different types of reconstructive surgery, by financing travelling and transnational learning among member states.

3. Communicating

Grant access and availability to the medical, psychosocial and sexological treatment and expand it to targeted victims/potential victims in Europe through the engagement of the civil society, including organisations for women of African Descent, migrants and ethnic minorities working on women’s rights.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

FGM is internationally recognised as a grave violation of the human rights. It comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. FGM affects 200 million girls and women around the world, and over 600.000 only in Europe. Although the EU tackles FGM in various ways, access to reconstructive surgery and psychosocial support for women who have undergone FGM should be improved and coordinated in the Member States, where is currently absent in most health and medical services.

Draft amendment 91

=== FEMM/6218 ===

Tabled by Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Domestic Violence - Assessment of the impact of programs targeting aggressors as an instrument to prevent their recurrence in different European countries

Remarks:

Add following text:

Preventing and combating domestic violence against women imposes a wide range of measures aimed at ensuring their economic and social independence, fulfilling their right to equality in life and at the same time ensuring adequate protection for women victims.

In addition, the fight against domestic violence also requires special attention to the prevention of recurrence of domestic violence by the aggressor.

This Pilot Project aims to carry out a Study that allows to know the programs directed to the aggressors, in what circumstances they are applied, to whom they are directed, an evaluation that is made of them in

their impacts in the prevention of the recurrence of violence.

It must contain information, whether in any country of the European continent on the way of accompanying the aggressor, whether it is flagged or monitored by the competent authorities, what actions involve him in order to know his psychological profile, to avoid the recurrence of domestic violence including the death of the victim or recurrence in other future victims.

It must also develop guidelines and tools that allow a concrete and real analysis of the measures that are or will be implemented on the social problem that domestic violence is. The development of guidelines should help to define policies to be adopted in the field of prevention.

It is extremely important to characterize the programs that different European countries have implemented to prevent the recurrence of domestic violence against women.

This pilot project will contribute to:

- Have concrete data to prevent future behavior of the aggressors;*
- Reflect on different strategies to be implemented;*
- Have knowledge about all the models adopted in European countries on this subject. This Pilot Project can be supported under the Daphne program.*

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Domestic violence is a social scourge that requires urgent and appropriate prevention and combat measures to be taken.

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Draft amendment 1

=== PETI/3700 ===

Tabled by Committee on Petitions

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							3 000 000	1 500 000	3 000 000	1 500 000
Reserve										
Total							3 000 000	1 500 000	3 000 000	1 500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Equipment for public education

Remarks:

Add following text:

Add the following

As thousands of teachers and students had to remain at their homes, Covid-19 outbreak became an opportunity for use of TIC and digital technologies in education. However, many students (particularly

those coming from low-income families) could not benefit of these possibilities. Many have no computer nor printer at home, or they have no Wi-Fi or Internet access. This is a sort of digital divide, affecting more acutely the most vulnerable students, located in lagging regions, marginal neighbourhoods, or rural areas, among others.

Whereas the purchase of educational equipment (included provision of broadband) may be funded by existing EU funds or programmes, operational expenses (e.g. subscription to the Internet service provider or costs incurred for third parties (e.g. leasing of devices, etc.) are not usually covered. However, these costs are meaningful and may burden the proper use of hardware and TIC facilities.

Thus, the objective of the project is promoting the access of TIC and digital technologies with educational purposes to vulnerable students in the EU, by covering operational expenses (including internet subscription costs or leasing/rental costs for devices).

Vulnerable students exist in every EU countries, even in those with higher Internet and educational coverage. Of course, some collectives are typically related to this sort of vulnerability: immigrants, single-parent families, rural areas, and so on. Thus, income would not be then the only criteria for allocation of a grant, as other criteria should be also considered: number of students at home, real need of TIC for covering the day-to-day educational activities, correspondence with scholar curriculum, existence of other public sources for similar purposes, relative cost and quality of Internet access...

Although vouchers may be paid directly to the beneficiary families, other managing structures (such as schools, parents' associations, local and regional authorities) should play an active role both to find the target students, and also to assist them in application process.

For this work of assistance, as well as for awareness and dissemination expenses, a percentage of the total amount (i.e., 1% of total budget) should be allocated to these intermediate structures. Dissemination may include mailing to families, posters or leaflets at schools or municipal premises, a dedicated website or social media.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The Covid-19 outbreak has shown public education systems in EU are unevenly adapted to face the challenge of digitalisation. Two major problems are 1) the lack of training or unequal training offered to teachers to adapt to this situation of confinement, and 2) the lack of material means for both public schools and their students to continue their education. E.g. related petitions: no. 0486/13, 1602/13 and 0662/19. This project aims to fight against the latter one.

Draft amendment 216 === REGI/6258 ===

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Improving Health-Risk Management and Health-Care in the Regions of Decommissioned Nuclear Facilities

Remarks:

Add following text:

There is numerous, although inconclusive, scientific deliberations that communities living in the spectrum of the regions where nuclear facilities are undergoing decommissioning, are subject to greater doses of radionuclides and from exposure to low and protracted doses of ionising radiation, typically encountered in the workplace and the environment, are faced with specific health impairments, reduction in length and quality of life which includes losses arising from somatic effects, cancer and genetic disorders.

The main objective of the Pilot Project - establishing scientific research and health rehabilitation centre in the EU regions which due to long lasting decommissioning of nuclear facilities are constantly affected by low levels of ionizing radiation. The Centre would gather scientific data and contribute to the research relative to the health risks and medical conditions caused by prolonged exposure to low-dose ionising radiation. The Centre would also provide rehabilitation and health promotion programmes intended at preventing or alleviating specific medical conditions and health detriments pertinent to the target local communities of the affected regions.

The main beneficiaries: exposed workers, directly involved in dismantling operations in the nuclear installations, and general members of the communities, exposed to dangers arising from low levels of ionizing radiation in the territories and adjacent regions of decommissioned nuclear sites.

Geographical scope: This pilot program would be most necessary in those member states' regions, which are immediately affected by decommissioning and dismantling of the nuclear facilities. It is particularly important for the decommissioning of specific reactor types, such as the ones with graphite, for which deferred dismantling strategies appear to be the only option adopted so far by other EU Member States that have graphite reactors in their territory.

Pilot Project activities:

- 1) Performing multidisciplinary analysis/feasibility study on the research needs for the implementation and development of the regional scientific research and health promotion facility specializing in low-dosage radiation;*
- 2) Identifying the needed investments steps and investigating ways of optimising synergy and sequencing of EU policies and funding;*
- 3) Financing establishment of the model scientific research and health rehabilitation centre in one of the EU region exposed to constant low doses of ionizing radiation due to decommissioning of nuclear facilities.*

The overall objectives of the Pilot Project:

Building upon the scientific outputs from past programmes in this field, improve understanding of the mechanisms contributing to radiation risks for health following low dose/dose-rate exposures;

Improve health risk evaluation of low-dose radiation exposure in local communities living in the regions of decommissioned nuclear facilities;

Contribute to developing optimized health care and rehabilitation strategies tailored to mitigate specific health detriments occurring in the populations subject to a long-term exposures to low levels ionizing

radiations.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The suggested Pilot Project would contribute to reducing uncertainties about the health risks the EU citizens face in the regions exposed to long-term low-dose radiation levels inflicted by nuclear decommissioning activities and resolving challenges these uncertainties pose for the implementation of Directive Euratom 2013/59.

This action will also contribute to ensuring better health risk identification and management, health care quality and accessibility in the regional communities with specific health concerns caused by phasing out of nuclear power.

Draft amendment 8

=== AFCO/6430 ===

Tabled by Committee on Constitutional Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 02

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 02							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Learning European and Global Citizenship

Remarks:

Add following text:

This pilot project has the objective of deepening the European and global citizenship’s dimension in the EU education systems. Through the development of a demonstrative curriculum in these areas, the next generation of Europeans should gain a better understanding of the European project and their belonging to the global community. Students in primary and secondary education should learn the history and heritage of the European Union, its institutions and functioning, how to work and live in multicultural environments, how to actively participate in European affairs, as well as understand their rights and obligations as European citizens. In an increasingly globalised world, it is also important that they gain knowledge of the international and multilateral architecture, particularly in times where international cooperation is under pressure. European history and values should be integrated within a global perspective and avoid Eurocentric biases. Moreover, as the economy is increasingly globalised, learning to work with others at an international level will be a fundamental skill for the next generations.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

More than a democratic deficit, the EU and international institutions face a knowledge deficit. There is a lack of understanding on how to teach and assess European and global citizenship given the multiple dimensions involved (heritage, history, institutions, etc.) and soft skills (working in diversity, active citizenship, etc.). This project seeks to overcome this deficit by bringing together a global community of European and international academics, policy makers, students and teachers to design and test a demonstrative European and global citizenship curriculum.

Draft amendment 255

==== CULT/5905 ====

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 02

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 02							850 000	450 000	850 000	450 000
Reserve										
Total							850 000	450 000	850 000	450 000

Heading:

Pilot project —Media representation and inclusion for refugees and migrants

Remarks:

Add following text:

Duration of the pilot project: 2 years.

Media (re)presentation and visibility of vulnerable groups like migrants and refugees remains very marginal in the mainstream media across Europe. Migration and refugee movements are global issues, the impact of which affects Europe locally, nationally and at the EU level. Before the migration management crisis of 2015, migrants and refugees were mostly missing in the mainstream media. Disinformation and stigmatising is happening mostly in national discourses, rather than on EU level, but the impact of them is felt at much larger scale. After 2015, media started exploiting migration issues to fuel negative, anti-European and nationalist rhetoric in EU Member States, creating dangerous precedents in shifting public opinion, and even affecting electoral results, let alone the challenges posed on EU solidarity.

Information about media representation of migrants and refugees is not abundant, but there are numerous examples collected and featured across the literature. The EC 2018 Special Eurobarometer 469: Integration of immigrants in the European Union, confronts the public opinion with facts and figures that bring clarity to the distorted image and perceptions promoted across the Union, about migration. The refugees and migrants of different backgrounds are rarely asked or quoted in the media stories. They are pointed at, but rarely heard. Decided for, but rarely involved. Portrayed predominantly in a stigmatising ways in the media: as dangerous outsiders, as victims, as criminals, as those who would take your jobs – migrants and refugees perspectives and voices have been mostly missing in the mainstream media.

This Pilot project aims to address these recurring issues by promoting and investing in inclusive media in Europe, which takes into account those voices. It aims to change current media narratives and break stigmas about the place and role of the refugees and migrants in European societies and communities. It will enable their voices to be integrated in the common media discourses and digital platforms. It will ensure that non-Euro-centric perspectives and visions of people outside of, but relevant to the idea of Europe, permeate and become integral part of the European media discourses. It will contribute to the values of non-discrimination, diversity, fair inclusion of newcomers – refugees and migrants- in the European media. It will help dealing with disinformation and polarising media discourses, through cooperation and skills development. The project will involve EU citizens, local, national and European policymakers, media (public, national and international), migrants and refugees, professional and civic platforms and stakeholders engaged in the topic.

Key actions:

Map out and study existing good practices (policies, legal basis, instruments, programmes, tools, etc.) related to inclusive media and disseminate them across the EU through experts’ conference, multi-stakeholder activities and publications (online and offline).

Develop specific recommendations to mainstream inclusive media narratives and communication throughout EU programmes.

Expand and build upon the existing good practices and community of knowledge across all EU Member States, in order to mainstream successful inclusion and ethical media models involving media, public broadcasters, European Broadcasters Union etc.

Professional knowledge exchange and peer learning for journalists in sensitive reporting.

Establish new collaborative practices, peer learning and professional training for newcomers-refugees and migrants) to foster their critical media and internet approaches, knowledge, skills and consumption; Provide them with skills and tools to change the way news are created and spread.

Complement the existing and develop new tools to deal with disinformation targeting refugees and migrants, and to allow for greater cooperation between fact-checkers and researchers on how to shape positive narratives on migration. Work closely with the European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO) in analyzing the phenomenon of disinformation and developing joint solutions.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

This Pilot project aims to address these recurring issues by promoting and investing in inclusive media in Europe, which takes into account those voices. It aims to change current media narratives, join forces with fact-checkers and researchers, and break stigmas about the place and the role of refugees and migrants in European societies, thus combatting disinformation. It will enable migrants’ voices to permeate the common media discourses and online platforms, thus ensuring non-Euro-centric perspectives of people outside of, but relevant to the idea of Europe to be integrated.

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 02

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 02							2 500 000	1 250 000	2 500 000	1 250 000
Reserve										
Total							2 500 000	1 250 000	2 500 000	1 250 000

Heading:

Pilot project — BIG (Basic Income Guarantee) E-pay cards for marginalised people: innovative financial & policy instrument to promote the more effective delivery of welfare benefits for people in extreme poverty

Remarks:

Add following text:

Initial Situation:

According to the 2016 FRA Minorities and Discrimination Survey[1], 80 % of Roma are at-risk-of-poverty (86% in Bulgaria, 58% in Czechia, 70% in Romania, 87% in Slovakia). This rate is much higher than the overall EU poverty rate of 24% (40% in Bulgaria, 13% in Czechia, 39% in Romania, 18% in Slovakia)[2]. Poverty is particularly high among Roma living in marginalized communities, notably in Slovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary and the Czech Republic. Furthermore, Roma rank among those who are the most affected by long-term poverty and inter-generational reproduction of poverty.

Figures from the 2011 joint study by the World Bank, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the European Commission showed that one-third of Roma children go to bed hungry at least once a month because there is not enough food. Experiences of deprivation in the early years of childhood significantly influence people's later life chances and trajectories.

Being poor is not just about a lack of income and material assets, it also implies being disadvantaged in many other ways. Material poverty is often coupled with experiencing disadvantage in (or being excluded from) access to education, employment, health- and social care, and housing; as well as importantly, from social relations and networks[3]. Moreover, there is a strong interdependence of poverty with spatial segregation, which further restrains access to such material, skills and social assets. It narrows the chances for secure livelihoods and thus leads to absolute poverty and social exclusion.

Perceptions implying that the individual is responsible for being poor and that Roma poverty is an issue of ethnicity or ethnic minority fail to recognize that poverty is a complex multidimensional phenomenon resulting from numerous factors. Many of these lie outside one's personal control, and are indeed linked to broader transformations in social policy and governance regimes. It is however clear that persons excluded from the labour market are the most threatened by poverty.

Social protection policies instituted under the new political regimes in CEE countries, which to a large extent rely on the means-tested assessment and payment of welfare benefits, have so far not been effective in getting the long-term poor, including Roma, out of poverty. State support comes in a form of social benefits, which serve to cover basic life needs, childcare, and housing or to support work activation. However, there are significant limitations of system design, when it comes to both preserving dignity and allowing for access to a wider range of assets, and providing tailored support and incentives for people to effectively climb out of the poverty conditions and lifestyles.

This decreases the effectiveness of help and over time translates into the following more visible symptoms:

- Socially excluded communities frequently settle on vacant sites, owned by the state, municipalities and more rarely on private land, which are unsuitable for residential use or are too remote from the urban web. This has direct implications on both the quality of housing conditions and access to viable employment opportunities. Most Roma and vulnerable people are engaged in primarily temporary,

precarious and unofficial work.

- In addition to income from seasonal employment and often unregistered labour activities, many Roma households rely on means-tested welfare benefits provided to large families and citizens of no financial means. Because of poor economic and living conditions and lack of financial literacy, Roma frequently spend their income from work and welfare benefits in the first days of the month and are then not able to provide for their basic needs during the rest of the month.

- Living in prolonged scarcity also has important psychological effects, and sometimes engenders dependencies and addictions that enhance precarity and the inability to make effective decisions or plan for the long term (or even the full month ahead).

- Most Roma households lack access to financial services, have low levels of savings and limited knowledge of effective household finance. Consequently, Roma often become indebted and fall victims of usury, which drags them in to a vicious circle of worsening poverty.

Efforts to promote Roma inclusion without ensuring a welfare benefits distribution system that is 'fit for purpose', and without the availability of financial services, will overlook a major barrier that can be addressed relatively effectively.

There is at present an acute need for further adjustment and piloting experimentation models for welfare benefits redistribution and effective support to answer the needs of vulnerable people in a multi-dimensional way. Starting from a whole-person approach and rolling out into the different areas of life.

The proposed pilot seeks to overcome conceptions of poverty as transitory or individualised phenomenon alone, attributed to a person or group's own failings. It starts from seeing poverty and marginality also as societal phenomena to be addressed from a systems-level perspective. And from an intent for preserving the dignity of those being helped. This also includes the assumption that the poor are often in the best place to decide what to spend their resources on (which is supported by economic research and longitudinal data[4]), but also that they should be supported and empowered in a number of additional ways.

Furthermore, the current coronavirus crisis spells an important turning point, revealing the danger of responses that expose or produce divides in society between those who are protected and those who are not. It prompts to look at new universal solutions with broader and more comprehensive coverage- both in mitigating the consequences of the crisis and in planning for the changing economy and world of work in the aftermath and longer term.

There is need for experimenting with innovative financial and policy instruments which to pave further for the more effective welfare delivery and investments supporting better outcomes for marginalised people. The proposed pilot would thus combine elements and seek to:

- Support social policy experimentation, through the delivery of welfare benefits coupled with a progressive incentive package, through E-pay cards

- Support empowerment, notably through strategies of entrepreneurship and restored sense of dignity and agency, for bridging social isolation stemming from long-term poverty

Using financial inclusion to give Roma access to the basic and vital services is as important a component of Roma inclusion as employment, housing, health or education. Households that can access and understand basic financial services and handle a savings account are likely to use social benefits more productively.

Policymakers in cooperation with project management can link financial inclusion and personal+ business development support with human development outcomes.

The pilot project:

The aim of this proposed pilot project is, while respecting competencies and responsibilities of Member States in defining and organizing their social protection systems, including the way in which benefits are distributed, to test an alternative delivery mechanism of welfare benefits, paid weekly under E-pay cards,

combined with continuous empowerment through entrepreneurship and self-development coaching work and financial literacy trainings.

The BIG scheme is envisioned as the combination of existing welfare benefits , with a scaled incentive package, which could allow additional transfers for individuals taking initiative in their personal and community/social life. It will be combined with measures, which help build the capacity of individuals to (re)integrate the labour market. This could serve as steps of a ladder allowing individuals and families to restore their agency and progressively climb out of poverty circles.

The proposal will directly support policy experimentation through testing an alternative approach to understanding and addressing poverty:

- Security – living with a mind-set of scarcity and deprivation puts psychological pressure and constricts the mental bandwidth of persons living in deprivation, thereby preventing them from planning for the long-term or making better decisions in the now. This calls for experimentation with reducing conditional transfers in order to give a sense of security, plus additional transfers to stimulate personal initiative and support people in becoming actors in their lives.*

- Expanded range of assets – emphasising poverty as more than a distributional (cash-poor) or material issue, seeing the relation to social isolation and access to a spectrum of ‘assets’ (material, skills, social and citizenship) to enable households to pursue new and more viable livelihood strategies.*

- ‘Human venturing’– investing in people as an alternative approach to benefit provisioning, essentially serving as ‘venture capital for the people’; and representing a new way for investing in human capacities (just as we do for companies) and breaking through socio-cultural environments.*

In relation to the first, the policy experimentation is underlined by multi-country research showing that poor people receiving unconditional welfare benefits do not blow the money on desires rather than needs.

In relation to the second, it will help recipients of social benefits, especially vulnerable and socially excluded communities, to sustain different livelihood strategies in order to get out of the vicious circle of poverty and indebtedness. It will also create the conditions for economic development and for improving the standards of living of the poorest.

Innovative financial instruments would be used to support the financing of the expanded benefits provision, through the combination of public and private (notably philanthropic) resources for better social outcomes.

This action is part of the European Union’s efforts to:

Support social innovation and new, holistic approaches to social service provision, the empowerment of disadvantaged groups and delivering transformative solutions to key social challenges, in particular Roma inclusion.

Stimulate cross-sectoral collaborations and social impact partnerships (public-private and civic engagement) as a new avenue for public value creation.

Pioneer the use of new financial instruments and blended support (financial instruments, grant and capacity building) for projects with high social externalities.

In the longer term, support the development of the social investment market and social impact interventions, through the testing/ refinement of models which could be scaled up across Europe.

Activities:

The PP would explore how innovative, impact-oriented approaches could allow to improve the effectiveness of social policies currently based on the payment of means-tested welfare benefits by shifting towards a system based on smart activation. This approach would also reduce the administrative costs associated with the current delivery system of social benefits to marginalised Roma communities; and increase public spending efficiency in the long run.

This PP would test and develop innovative solutions, under a multi-country, pan-European approach,

which could be further replicated and scaled to deliver improved sustainable outcomes and societal well-being in the EU.

The PP would include the following elements:

An enhanced delivery mechanism of welfare benefits, to be implemented in several Member States with large concentration of Roma; 500 recipients per Member State.

- Concerning existing welfare benefits*
- paid to each individual (on a weekly basis): each man and each woman would receive welfare benefits, paid directly to them and not to a 'household head'. Paying individually is a vital feminist principle, which has been systematically abused in all social security systems over the past century.*
- unconditional. Recipients should not be required to spend the money in any specific way. However, pre-existing conditions in national legislation such as those linked to the mandatory school attendance of children would need to be respected as a prerequisite for additional incentives.*
- non-withdrawable: recipients will not have their welfare benefits withdrawn for any reason during the course of the pilot project. The incentive transfers beyond this amount would be linked to specific elements and activities in a gradation (e.g. connected to kindergarten attendance, social and work occupations, progressively providing stepping stones in the path out of poverty and dependence).*
- delivered through basic E-pay cards linked to a free or low cost bank account.*

Capacity and capability building through empowerment and self-development coaching, job training, economic and financial literacy courses. In addition to the need to improve the financial literacy of families, the project will also aim at promoting an approach linking financial incentives to participation in active inclusion measures effectively leading to employment and empowerment.

Provision of micro-loans for personal projects aiming at improving the living conditions (optional).

Engagement of all stakeholders (national, regional and local authorities, financial institutions, employers, not-for-profit organisations, etc.).

While contributing to the objectives of the Action Plan for the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, this pilot project would also be closely aligned with and seek to provide input to the EU Action Plan for a Strong Social Europe for Just Transitions, , the European Semester as well as the implementation of the EU initiative for Roma equality and inclusion.

It could be implemented under a social outcome contracting mechanism.

After being tested in multiple sites with significant Roma communities, the model could inspire reforms of the welfare systems in Bulgaria, Czechia, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia and other countries.

References:

[1] <https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2016/second-european-union-minorities-and-discrimination-survey-roma-selected-findings>

[2] Eurostat 2016

[3] Michael Burawoy theory which states that the structure of the labour process, via its relative autonomy and key mechanisms manufactures consent; presented in Poverty, segregation and social exclusion of Roma communities in Slovakia, <https://www.ceeol.com/search/article-detail?id=737888>

[4] Esther Duflo, Good Economics for Hard Times (Public Affairs: New York) 277-323

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No

1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The pilot project targets the ineffectiveness of existing social protection policies to get the long-term poor, including Roma, out of poverty, through innovative policy and financial instruments. It seeks to reform the delivery system of welfare benefits via the introduction of e-pay cards and empower recipients to sustain different livelihood strategies.. It will support local social policy experimentation and as such contribute to the Commission's broader social inclusion and finance policy.

Draft amendment 2

=== PETI/3701 ===

Tabled by Committee on Petitions

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 02

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 02							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Mental ill health during and after COVID-19

Remarks:

Add following text:

Add the following

The rapid spread of COVID-19 pandemic is having dramatic consequences on people's mental ill-health. Even before the virus outbreak, depression and anxiety have been noted as defining features of our times. According to the Commission's Health at Glance: Europe 2018' report states that every sixth adult in the European Union alone was affected by mental ill-health before the COVID-19 outbreak, which is more than 84 million people.

Isolation and uncertainty are not helping people to cope with the new realities of our newly digital lives: teleworking, digital schooling, combined with family responsibilities, which are happening under the incredible stress on unknown circumstances.

Furthermore, the impact of this crisis, including confinement and social distancing is affecting the most vulnerable groups of our society. Women falling victim to domestic violence, elderly people, LGBTIQ+, people with disabilities, youth and low-wage workers are at a higher risk.

The rapidly updating media stories reporting worst-case scenarios are creating panic and uncertainty that affects our mental health.

The Pilot Project will contribute to mental ill-health needs in order to create a strong and coordinated action. Europe needs a holistic approach to tackle the negative effects of the COVID-19 on mental ill-health.

Expected outcomes of the pilot project:

- developing an European Union Mental Health Strategy during and after COVID-19

- adopting comprehensive long-term measures to mitigate the health and socio-economic consequences of the current crisis on people with mental ill-health

- *establishing of mental health friendly policies across all sectors, which will play a key role in the wellbeing of our society*
- *investing in online platforms for mental health, accessible to all*
- *building more equal, inclusive and sustainable economies and societies to become more resilient against pandemics and other global challenges that affect mental ill-health*
- *addressing equal opportunities on the labour market for people with mental ill-health*
- *sharing the best practices and recommendations between the Member States*

At the end of this pilot project a report will be published, informing the European Parliament and the Member States of the findings. The research will be translated in all official languages of the European Union. A presentation of the research results will be organised at the European Parliament.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

This pilot project would make a valuable contribution to achieving these goals. Investing in mental ill-health will bring a positive impact on the labour market and economy at large. With concrete cross-sectoral EU actions on mental ill-health, together we can tackle the COVID-19 crisis so no one will be left behind.

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Draft amendment 9

=== AFCD/6431 ===

Tabled by Committee on Constitutional Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 03

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 03							3 000 000	1 800 000	3 000 000	1 800 000
Reserve										
Total							3 000 000	1 800 000	3 000 000	1 800 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Temporary citizens' assemblies: transforming societal consensus into a way of acting and establishing best practices to engage citizens more in EU public life

Remarks:

Add following text:

The number of significant crises the Union has undergone demonstrates that EU needs to involve citizens more closely in a bottom-up exercise. Citizens' assemblies are exercises in deliberative democracy which bring together a cross-section of society to debate and advise on specific societal challenges. Although EU citizens' dialogues took place in the past, those temporary assemblies would be a rare chance for citizens to take the reins from their representatives and hash out the issues for themselves. If formulated correctly, citizens can transform consensus on important issues to consensus on a way to act better. Positive outcomes would help bring citizens closer to the EU.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The Pilot project aims at creating temporary randomly selected EU-wide citizens' assemblies to discuss one or several important societal questions that are relevant for the EU and at establishing best practices to engage citizens more in EU public life.

Draft amendment 256

=== CULT/5906 ===

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 03

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 03							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Supporting digital transition of local and regional news media in face of ongoing financial difficulties

Remarks:

Add following text:

Local and regional news media play an important role for their communities. Not only do they provide information not available elsewhere and hold local power to account, they act as a binding and an empowering force for their communities. Without strong local media, disinformation, amplified by social media, can spread more easily at the regional level. Thus, local news has a unique and invaluable role in our democratic societies.

However, the very existence of local news media has become uncertain in many Member States. Their audiences are increasingly shifting to digital and mobile media environments, including social media. Meanwhile, advertisers are primarily moving to mostly US-dominated online platforms. Unable to compete directly against these platforms and struggling for income due to diminishing advertising revenues, the traditional business model of local news media has been completely undermined. This has resulted in shrinking newsrooms and staff layoffs, consolidations and even bankruptcies, which in turn has not only reduced media pluralism, but in some cases even dented the democratic processes at the local level. The fallout from the COVID-19 outbreak and the consequent abrupt loss of advertising revenues is further challenging the local media ecosystem. There is a great risk of undermining a crucial part of our democratic infrastructure.

In order to stay current and avoid extinction, traditional local and regional news media must adapt urgently by going digital. Among other tasks, they need to upgrade their ICT infrastructures, develop modern digital platforms and online subscription models, use analytical tools and data effectively, including in order to better reach audiences, and upskill their staff so as to fully unleash the digital

potential. All of this requires additional knowledge and investment that local news media lack.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Local and regional news media play an indispensable role by providing quality news content, fighting disinformation and ensuring media plurality and linguistic diversity. To avoid extinction, they must transition to the digital environment. However, due to diminishing revenues, amplified by the COVID-19 outbreak, local news media lack relevant knowledge and investment. By providing the necessary guidance, local media will be able to transition to the digital environment and fully embrace the opportunities offered by it in order to stay current and develop viable business models

Draft amendment 241 === EMPL/5618 ===

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 03

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 03							1 800 000	900 000	1 800 000	900 000
Reserve										
Total							1 800 000	900 000	1 800 000	900 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Study on Loneliness, focus on mental health

Remarks:

Add following text:

Worldwide academic evidence shows that loneliness, the absence of support networks or communicative skills have health (physical and mental) and social consequences on an individual level, as well as an economic impact on the working capacity of people and on the interconnectedness of society. Loneliness has many symptoms (e.g. depression) which sometimes get medical treatment, while the root causes of the problem remain unsolved. The effect of loneliness has been showcased on a large scale during the Covid-19 crisis, proving the negative effects of isolation on social cohesion and mental health. The impact of loneliness and the Covid-19 will have a major impact on European’s demography, not only in terms of health and social connectedness, but also on the economy by way of productivity.

In a fast moving and changing world, with frequently more virtual than physical contact, especially during times of confinement, self-isolation or quarantine, with ageing and culturally diverse populations and with complex demands on the skills of workers an increasing number of people feel left behind. The individuality of society erodes into isolation and cumulate in loneliness. In the few countries, where loneliness studies have been carried out before the Covid-19 crisis, about 80% of the population states to feel lonely occasionally and a consistent 10-13% feel lonely permanently. Not only the elderly but especially the young population is deeply affected, with peaking numbers at the young adolescent age. At this moment, the few existing studies use different criteria, varying age groups and definitions. On the EU

level several small scale initiatives have taken place:

The policy brief on ‘Loneliness – an unequally shared burden in Europe’, presenting evidence and data on the subject .

The project ‘VulnerABLE’ aimed at better understanding of how best to improve the health of people living in vulnerable and isolated situations, identify and recommend evidence-based policy strategies, and raise awareness of the findings and support capacity-building within Member States.

A peer review with the participation of several Member States focusing on projects, measures and strategies for tackling social isolation, loneliness and social exclusion in older age took place in Germany in September 2019.

The European Quality of Life Survey, providing information on loneliness, amongst others the upcoming report on ‘Living, working and COVID-19’.

While these activities provide for different and partial perspectives to loneliness, it is evident that a comprehensive study using comparable data is needed to gain more a complete insight in order to provide for effective and sustainable solutions with the involvement of stakeholders. The study should thus provide new added value, while avoiding duplications.

Loneliness and its lasting effect on social exclusion and mental health issues occurs in every age and gender group, in most countries loneliness hits men harder, yet the data is sparse. Apparently, the East-West and North-South divide also reflects in the gender disparities, with mostly women reporting loneliness in the East, while more men seem to suffer loneliness in Western Europe.

Some EU countries have commenced an active policy to combat loneliness on national, regional or local level. Many initiatives have been launched by charity/phone projects, developers of housing of mixed age groups, living room meet ups for elderly people. Ireland, for example, has a national plan on tackling loneliness amongst senior citizens. Yet, a European approach is missing and the disparities between countries are significant. A European perspective as well as an EU-wide network and data are crucial to understand loneliness and its impact on the social exclusion and mental health of the population to then be able to counteract and find tangible solutions together with the regional and local level.

The Project

This pilot project aims to study and compare current national and regional loneliness policies, to gather comprehensive and comparable EU-wide data, to analyse the impact of the Covid-19 crisis and to coherently provide best practices and recommendations to combat the social exclusion and mental health issues related to loneliness.

The project is divided into four phases:

1) The first phase will be taking stock of loneliness studies and initiatives on local, regional and (inter)national level, be it private or public. These initiatives will be subject to analysis as to what extent and in which specific areas they are suitable to help to alleviate or prevent loneliness. An integral part of this first phase would be to conduct a comprehensive EU-wide study on the impacts of loneliness based on existing and newly gathered data, including the (lasting) impact of Covid-19, disaggregated by gender differences and reflecting regional disparities.

2) The second phase will bring all the initiatives together in an easily accessible and user-friendly platform, to directly support stakeholders and afflicted persons and to provide information on road maps to alleviate loneliness.

3) The third phase will (virtually) bring together actors and stakeholders dealing with the topic of loneliness ("patients", organisations, unions, charity/volunteer organisations, policy makers, societal innovators). A summit will provide the opportunity to discuss aspects/root causes/symptoms of loneliness and its impact on social exclusion and mental health, different phases and profiles of loneliness (age groups, gender, cultural background, location, etc.) to define where and when loneliness starts as well as to debate the role of social media and digitalisation (online hate speech impact on mental health, etc).

4) *The fourth phase will be a follow-up at EU level and will comprise the presentation of best practices and recommendations to combat the social exclusion and mental health issues related to loneliness, based upon the outcome of the former phases. A clear outline will be presented on focus groups and the most effective measures, on short- and long-term goals, as well as an overview of stakeholder groups.*

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Loneliness is a distressing and growing phenomenon with a wide range of negative effects, amongst others on social exclusion and mental health, as showcased by the Corona-quarantine. People increasingly feel left behind as a result of weakening social cohesion, digitalisation, income inequality and changes in communication. To effectively combat loneliness and its divisive effects on the society, the EU needs data, research and an overview of current existing policies and best practices..

Draft amendment 257

=== CULT/5907 ===

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 04

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 04							1 200 000	600 000	1 200 000	600 000
Reserve										
Total							1 200 000	600 000	1 200 000	600 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Internationalization of the European Capital of Culture experiences and models. Sharing governance models and inter-cultural exchanges towards more co-creation and partnership.

Remarks:

Add following text:

The project taps the currently unused internationalisation potential of the European Capitals of Culture in order to support a better sharing of governance models and experiences of the interesting and successful European Capitals of Cu experiment in order to:

- o steer, bundle and network with international partners,*
- o propose training and coaching purposes,*
- o address together common questions,*
- o fully use synergies for international programmes development,*
- o cover accurately point of views on shared history and heritage,*
- o reach out to diverse target groups and*
- o allow for more inter-cultural exchanges.*

This global initiative could be started in a first phase with the African continent that already expressed interest to start an African Capitals of Culture model

Through these actions should be reached a wider participation of European Capitals of Culture in global (cultural / policy) city networks’, in contributing to the achievement UN Sustainable Development Goals and to different regional Capitals of Culture initiatives in the world. At the same time European Capitals of Culture programmes would benefit from more co-creation with new artistic and creative industries from outside the EU, contributing to overcome persisting stereotypes in parts of the cultural sector and the EU population, and increasing the visibility of the European Capitals of Culture programmes for an international audience and non-European participation.

Preferred DG: DG DEVCO in collaboration with DG EAC/EACEA

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The project contributes to the EU strategy for international cultural relations especially to the strands of enhanced city-to-city and people-to-people cooperation and to the International Partnership objectives of the new Commission, sharing the 'Capitals of Culture' model worldwide”. This runs in parallel with the increasing number of initiatives for ‘Capitals of Culture’ in other world regions – the latest being the African Capital of Culture. It relates also to the enhanced cooperation between the European and the African Union highlighted e.g. in the EU Africa Strategy plans

Draft amendment 242

=== EMPL/5619 ===

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 04

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 04							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — European Elderly People Network

Remarks:

Add following text:

At EU level, two organisations, the AGE Platform and Eurag, voice and promote the interests of the 200 million citizens aged 50+ in the European Union, and raise awareness on the issues that concern them most.

Their work focuses on a wide range of policy areas that affect older and retired people, including issues of anti-discrimination, employment of older workers and active and healthy ageing, social protection, pension reforms, social inclusion, health, elder abuse, intergenerational solidarity, research, accessibility

of public transport and of the build environment, and new technologies.

These organisations are active at regional, national and EU level.

However, while much EU support is given to enhance the organisation and representation of young people at European level in order to empower them to influence their future and connect with their elected representatives, organisations representing older people in Europe have not received the same level of support so far.

It has to be noted that during the last term, the European Parliament has been active on the topic, through its Intergroup subgroup on Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, which held a series of ad-hoc events.

This pilot project complements the activities of the organisations that represent elderly people, and in particular, to enable them to be better represented at EU level.

A ‘European Senior Event 2021’ (ESE 2021), based on the EYE 2018 model (<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/priorities/eye-2018>) and bringing elderly people from all parts of the European Union together in Strasbourg or Brussels, to make their voices on the future of Europe heard, could thus take place in 2021. Subsequently, an annual EU Senior Citizens' Assembly, a ‘Parliament of Seniors’, could be established, also based on the model of the ‘Youth Parliament’. The ‘Parliament of Seniors’ could hold its session on the International Day for Older Persons, 1 October, and function as a body to advise the European Commission and the European Parliament regarding the effect of EU legislation on elderly people.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Much EU support is given to enhance the organisation and representation of young people in order to empower them to influence their future and connect with their elected representatives. Older people also deserve EU support to this end. Hence, an initiative similar to the European Youth Parliament, but directed towards seniors, is necessary in order for them to fully participate in the political and social life at EU level. This PP complements the activities of the organisations that represent elderly people, and in particular, to enable them to be better represented and heard at EU level

Draft amendment 261

=== CULT/5911 ===

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 05

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 05							1 500 000	1 000 000	1 500 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							1 500 000	1 000 000	1 500 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project —Building investigative capacity to better fight doping in sport in Europe.

Remarks:

Add following text:

Only WADA and few ADOs have the capacity to investigate, collaborate with law enforcement and to protect whistleblowers. Most ADOs face certain challenges (lack of a solid legislative framework, no robust structure or lack of necessary resources). This weakens the anti-doping system worldwide. The situation is critical and requires a coordinated response.

The project will contribute in many ways to the objectives of the EU, including by:

- protecting public health – doping is not just a problem affecting elite athletes and sport; but also, a threat to the society as a whole; especially youth. Research can attest a growth in the use of steroids and other prohibited substances by amateur athletes and youth to look and perform better.*
- providing new tools to combat the organized crime – selling doping substances is a ‘low risk – highly profitable activity’. Research demonstrate the involvement of organized crime in the manufacturing and trafficking of doping substance in sports along other illicit substances. Sharing of information between ADOs and law enforcement ADOs will help optimizing the fight against manufacturing and trafficking in doping substances.*
- improving sports governance in and outside Europe - this project will contribute to strengthening the governance of sport organizations and to share EU values with other partners through the involvement of non-EU countries in the implementation of the project.*

Furthermore, this project will help mitigate the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the anti-doping sector. The increase in expenditure on key branches of national economies due to the pandemic will result in a halt to the development of many ADOs. The project will allow for a partial restoration of their capacity. It will help ADOs increase their activities, including the economic ones and compensate from some potential diminution of government contribution to ADOs moving forward.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The project will contribute in many ways to the objectives of the EU, including by:

- protecting public health –
- providing new tools to combat the organized crime –.
- improving sports governance in and outside Europe -

Furthermore, this project will help mitigate the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the anti-doping sector.

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Draft amendment 243

=== EMPL/5620 ===

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 05

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 05							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Ending the elitist approach of the Erasmus+ programme and making it more inclusive. A specific project linked to Erasmus + programme addressing the gap between higher education and vocational training schools in accessing the Erasmus + programme

Remarks:

Add following text:

For the participation in the Erasmus + programme, it is imperative to carry out an evaluation and impact assessment on the access to the Erasmus + programme. Furthermore, priority should be given to this subject matter.

The aim of this project is to conduct a research on the awareness level of the Erasmus + programme in the field of vocational studies. Then, building on these results, to design a separate programme and implement awareness raising tools, such as online applications, to have a more focused approach for this group. In this way, the desired result would be that a broad range of students would participate in the Erasmus + programme, especially the ones undertaking vocational education.

It would thus be implemented into 2 phases:

1) First and the key one (25 % of the budget): research on the level of awareness of the Erasmus + programme in the field of vocational studies.

2) Second phase: building on the results, design a separate programme and implement awareness raising tools, such as applications (75 % of the budget)

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

This project is in line with the Erasmus + programme. It aims to improve knowledge on VET and access to it. Articles 165 and 166 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union are the legal basis for it as they provide for EU action on vocational training. It further builds on the key principle of 'Equal opportunities and access to the labour market' as laid down in the European Pillar of Social Rights.

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Draft amendment 246

=== EMPL/5623 ===

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION**Add: PP 07 21 06**

	Budget 2020	Draft budget 2021	Council's position 2021	Difference	New amount
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	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 06							2 000 000	750 000	2 000 000	750 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	750 000	2 000 000	750 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Common Protection Framework to ensure Mental Health at the Workplace

Remarks:

Add following text:

Background information

Work is a basic and universal right. It has not only economic and social value, but it also contributes to personal fulfilment. However, it can have a negative impact on people's mental health.

According to the WHO, globally, more than 300 million people suffer from depression and common mental disorders related to work. In the EU-27, it has been found that 15 % of people had sought help for a psychological or emotional problem, while 72 % of people had taken antidepressants at some point in their lives. The term 'burnout', although defined in various ways, recognises the role of exhaustion – particularly emotional, as a result of long-term exposure to strenuous work factors. The prevalence of burnout as a medical diagnosis seems to be very low (less than 5 %), but it could be that burnout, anxiety and/or depression may afflict the same individuals. Work and the working environment can even push a person to a suicide, notably in the context of burnout. Despite evidence of work-related suicides within the EU, the workplace in such contexts remains a largely hidden phenomenon that is unrecognised in the legislation, absent from statistics, overlooked by authorities and widely misunderstood.

In terms of workplace wellbeing, the coronavirus pandemic has revealed every aspect of today's work environment, with millions of employees finding themselves suddenly working remotely, and others overworking under stressful conditions and concerned about putting their own health at risk. More and more employees are dealing with stress, anxiety and isolation and, in the coming months, this may take a heavy toll. If mental disorders were one of the top public health challenges in the WHO European Region, affecting about 25 % of the population every year, after the COVID-19 crisis, we can expect to witness an exponential increase in these numbers.

In this context, promoting mental health at work has become a vital response to these challenges since the workplace is both a major factor in the development of mental and physical health problems, but also a platform for the introduction of appropriate preventive measures able to drive our societies towards a new paradigm of social well-being.

- SETTING THE GOAL -

The recognition of certain mental disorders (burnout, depression and anxiety) as occupational diseases is becoming, not only an ethical obligation in our modern societies, but a bottom-line issue to protect the fundamental rights of European citizens in the labour market.

Most European countries do not recognise mental health disorders as occupational diseases. Belgium was the first country to establish specific legislation on well-being at work, acknowledging the importance of addressing the issues at stake and the economic burden that this also implies for its social security system. According to available data collected in 2014 by the Federal Public Service of Employment, Labour and Social Dialogue (SPF emploi), among the 321,573 patients that have been on sick leave for more than a year, suffering from different kinds of diseases, more than a third, or 35 %, suffered from psycho-social disorders (anxiety, burnout, etc.). Furthermore, according to data collected by the Belgian National Institute for Health and Disability (INAMI), the cost of incapacity for work is estimated at 7.1 billion euros in 2017, and among the 400,000 people compensated in this context, around 7 % were compensated due to burn-out (i.e. 28,000 people), and 15 % due to depression.

Therefore, given the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the health of workers (especially those working on the frontline), it is time to turn this debate into real facts and push forward the recognition of mental

health disorders as occupational diseases in the Member States.

The current European Framework Directive 89/391/EEC on safety and health of workers at work, is clearly not enough to face all the above-mentioned challenges since it does not include neither necessary and updated measures related to mental health at work nor appropriate measures to protect all EU citizens by preventing and mitigating the proliferation of these different pathologies (anxiety, burnout and depression) related to work in a global, accelerated and digitalised context.

In consideration of the above-mentioned facts, the three goals of the project are as follows:

- *The recognition of anxiety, depression and burnout, as occupational diseases by the European Union and its Member States.*
- *The establishment of mechanisms for prevention of work-related mental disorders and reintegration of affected employees into the workforce.*
- *The adoption of a European legal instrument that protects workers from mental diseases at the workplace.*

The identification of key elements and trends through collected relevant data, and the gathering and promoting of best practices on mental health at the workplace, will allow designing guidelines in order to prevent and mitigate mental disorders at work while paving the way for the definition and the adoption of a European legal instrument.

The actions described above will aim to reach the indicated goals, which have been structured under the following work packages (WP):

WP1. DESK RESEARCH

It is important to have a detailed assessment of the workplace mental health situation in Europe in order to gain the explicit endorsement and commitment for the implementation of WP2 and WP3. A new workplace mental health policy needs to be based on a comprehensive understanding of the situation by gathering all available relevant information. Research data should build on existing knowledge but may also go beyond. Such data information might include:

1) Data on work-related common mental disorders within the EU.

- *analysis of the incidence and prevalence of common mental disorders in the workplace (anxiety, depression and burnout) considering different indicators: country, professional sector, age, gender, among others.*
- *analysis of the legal recognition of common mental disorders (anxiety, depression and burnout) as occupational diseases by Member States.*

2) Data on suicide rates related to work (e.g. comparing highest and lowest suicide rates) considering different indicators: country, professional sector, age, gender, among others.

3) Risk assessment tools and data-driven approaches existing for predicting and preventing work-related mental health disorders or suicidal behaviour, as well as return-to-work support for employees with mental health problems.

4) Data on relationship between work-life balance and work-related mental health: flexible schedules, teleworking and other work-life balance measures and the outcome on mental health.

5) Financial data: economic costs of mental illness for security and unemployment systems.

WP2. DESIGN OF A TOOLKIT OF GOOD PRACTICES FOR PREVENTION OF WORK-RELATED MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS, AND REINTEGRATION INTO THE WORKPLACE

The data collected in the WP1 will provide scientific evidence for the creation and promotion of intervention programmes establishing good practices for mental health. It is important to recognise and share all these practices as well as to ensure their evaluation and exchange across all EU Member States. These programmes will provide access to up-to-date resources, and support the reintegration of

individuals suffering a mental occupational disorder into the workforce, having the aim of primary prevention to avoid psychosocial risk factors, of timely treatment and handling of a diagnosed condition and of minimising its impact on daily functioning through rehabilitation and relapse prevention.

WP3. DEFINITION AND ADOPTION OF A LEGAL MECHANISM AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL

After the implementation of WP1 and WP2, the results collected will be used, on the one hand, for the definition and design of a European legal instrument, putting in practice a policy response to prevent and mitigate the proliferation of mental disorders at the workplace, ensuring the health and wellbeing of all EU citizens. Moreover, this instrument will pursue the legal recognition of anxiety, depression and burnout as occupational diseases in the EU Member States. The participation and consultation of social actors and other institutions / organisations in this area, will be extremely important at this stage and will support the proper implementation of this action.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The assessment notes there is existing data on Psychosocial Risks at work. However, the studies are not up-to-date neither include key indicators to establish a new Strategic framework for health and safety at work post-2020 adequate to the current challenges. Directive 89/391/EEC on safety and health of workers does not include measures to mitigate the proliferation of the pathologies stated at this PP. It is time for an EU legal instrument to protect workers from mental disorders at the work.

Draft amendment 245

=== EMPL/5622 ===

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 07

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 07							2 000 000	750 000	2 000 000	750 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	750 000	2 000 000	750 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Stress tests of the Social Welfare Systems in the Member States - Building sustainable and inclusive social protection systems

Remarks:

Add following text:

The social welfare systems guarantee to European societies and citizens the integral services and economic benefits for a decent life, within the framework of a political, economic and social model of a welfare state. For this pilot project, these social protection systems to be considered will include 7 areas of intervention: social security, healthcare, education, housing, employment, justice and social services for vulnerable groups.

These schemes play a key role in achieving socially sustainable development, promoting equality and social justice and fulfilling the human right to social protection as it is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948). Thus, social protection policies are vital elements of national development strategies to reduce poverty and vulnerability across the life cycle and to support inclusive and sustainable growth.

In the current crisis, the social welfare systems are experiencing an unprecedented situation of stress and pressure. Public expenditure is exponentially increasing to respond to the demands of some services such as healthcare systems or to support the growing number of unemployed people. Resources are limited because they were not foreseen to cover the social demand in a context of healthcare and economic emergency.

After the 2008 financial crisis, the ECB implemented stress tests of the banking sector in 2011, as a way of strengthening the banking system. However, the social welfare systems did not undergo similar assessment in order to make them more resilient to a future crisis. On the contrary, these services areas suffered continued budget cuts which made them even less capable of attending the growing social and health needs.

Social welfare systems have to be designed and built in a way that they can perform and assist the entire population, particularly in situations of crisis or systemic shocks.

The pilot project

1. Description:

This pilot project is intended to design a framework for the establishment of stress tests for social welfare systems in Europe. The stress tests should serve as a tool to verify their degree of resilience under varying conditions and severity of crises, with the purpose of foreseeing and preventing their possible collapse in situations of extreme depression and emergency. The framework should encompass the institutions' universalistic objectives aimed at responding to the different risks experienced by the whole population with institutions focused on the specific assistance to the most vulnerable groups.

2. Objectives:

- To examine the composition of different national social welfare systems in order to outline a common framework and definitions. This should englobe the 7 systems of social protection: social security, health, education, housing, employment, justice and social services. Universal well-performing social protection floors should also be defined.*
- To analyse how the different national systems are covering social welfare needs during the current crisis in order to identify strengths and weaknesses in the access to and provision of services and social protection. This should take into account the universal aspect of the systems assisting the entire population as well as the support for different vulnerable groups.*
- To develop a monitoring and evaluation framework of the social welfare systems that allows comparative analyses of the different national models. This should include identifying and tracking performance indicators, sustainability standards, robustness and resilience, quality of services, coverage and availability.*
- To create a simulation model for analysing the performance of social welfare systems under different crisis scenarios. The stress tests should allow for an analysis of the weaknesses of the different public and social protection systems and allow to see if they are sufficiently equipped both in terms of budget and material and human resources. These social stress tests should also assess, in case of an economic crisis, which levels of poverty, unemployment and social exclusion could be handled through social protection mechanisms.*
- To create a framework where the conclusion of different simulation tests leads to the design of policy responses and targets to increase performance, resilience, coverage, quality and robustness of the national systems.*

- To outline what kind of a European mechanism or Authority should be put in place in order to establish and coordinate the stress tests of the social systems and which financial instruments would be needed in order to assist national welfare systems in case of shocks or crises.

3. Implementation phases:

- Seminar at the European level involving the European Social Policy Network (ESPN), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and other stakeholders (institutions/ of public policies and social policy research, social partners, European umbrella civil society organisations in the social field) to debate on the reporting of the effects of the current crisis on the social welfare systems. First quarter of 2021.

- Following the conclusions of the seminar, the ESPN and ILO (through its Social Protection Platform), should produce national thematic reports analysing the current situation of stress that social welfare systems are currently experiencing: causes, weaknesses and strengths and main needs. A European synthesis report should then be drafted by the leaders of the ESPN. Second quarter of 2021.

- Seminar at the European level to present the results of the thematic reports and debate about the developing of simulation models and foresight reports for the stress tests situations of the social welfare systems. As a result of the seminar, clear ideas should emerge about the way to proceed with the development of a prospective research on the resilience of European welfare systems in front of a potential crisis, shocks and emergency risks that could be faced by European societies in the future. Third quarter of 2021.

- Prospective research phase, which could be developed by the ESPN, ILO and/or other research organisations. Last quarter of 2021.

- Final conference: presentation of the results of the foresight exercise and proposals for action at EU level (institutionalisation of stress tests and prospective exercises on the resilience of European welfare systems in situations of emergencies or crises). First quarter 2022.

Social protection is a basic human right and is enshrined as such in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), in the European Social Charter, in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and in the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Social welfare systems guarantee the human right to social protection and have the potential to cover all human rights. However, in times of high demand, these systems can collapse if they have not been previously strengthened in order to act as social stabilisers.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The Commission assessment does not state that Stress tests already exist. The EU has mechanisms to analyse existing social protection systems (ESPN, MISSOC, Semester Social Scoreboard), but these are insufficient to make social welfare systems stronger and more resilient in case of shocks or crises. Stress tests are to date an inexistent but essential tool to ensure robust and protective welfare systems. The practice is not covered by EaSI, and the social protection committee should implement the tests.

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Draft amendment 244

=== EMPL/5621 ===

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 08

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 08							1 000 000	750 000	1 000 000	750 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	750 000	1 000 000	750 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Improving the employment for persons with disabilities through the inclusive enterprise model

Remarks:

Add following text:

1. Introduction

Persons with disabilities run the highest risk of being excluded from jobs – discrimination still happens in many European countries. At EU level, Eurostat figures confirm that persons with disabilities are far more affected by unemployment than those without disabilities. On average, only 48.1 % of persons with disabilities in the EU are employed compared to 73.9 % among the general population. Women with disabilities and persons with high support needs show even lower employment rates.

These data demonstrate that the employment for people with disabilities has been one of the least developed objectives within the European Disability Strategy (EDS) 2010-2020. Unemployment may lead to poverty and social exclusion. Guaranteeing access to employment and occupation is a key issue, as it is a crucial aspect for the economic and social inclusion of around 80 million persons with disabilities in Europe.

2. Justification

The current EDS is coming to an end in the year 2020. The importance of a European Disability Strategy is key to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and, therefore, to promotion and protection of the rights of all persons with disabilities. At this point, it is extremely important to guarantee employment rights of persons with disabilities, through an inclusive enterprise model for people with disabilities, based on respect for Article 27 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: equal opportunities, equal remuneration and safe and healthy working conditions.

It calls for a pilot project that focuses on strengthening the obligations to offer reasonable wages based on the minimum wage, and works to better implement the existing directives on non-discrimination in employment. Moreover, the agenda should focus on the use of EU funds to facilitate employment of persons with disabilities in the open labour market, in part through the recognition, promotion and protection of an inclusive enterprise as a social economy agent aiming at integration into the labour market, as a worker, any person with a disability.

3. Definition and characteristics of an inclusive enterprise model for persons with disabilities.

Inclusive enterprise is an employment model for people with disabilities that is present in more than 13 European countries and involves more than 8.000 companies. They provide goods, services, and livelihoods hiring persons with disabilities as equal workers, while also engaging an important part of the population in the value chain of companies as suppliers, distributors, and retailers.

An inclusive enterprise works as a vehicle to answer the need of the majority of persons with disabilities for a dignified and productive life just like any individual. Equal employment provides not only income but also social impact generating opportunities for social participation, which is especially important for persons with disabilities.

Concerning the organisation of inclusive enterprises, they can be structured as for-profit or non-for-profit, and may take the form (depending on in which country the entity exists and the legal forms available) of a co-operative, mutual organisation, a disregarded entity, a social business, a benefit corporation, a community interest company, a company limited by guarantee or a charity organisation. They can also take more conventional structures.

Nevertheless, inclusive enterprises have both enterprise goals and social goals, but they focus on the employment of persons with disabilities. As a result, their social goal is embedded in their objective, which differentiates them from other organisations and corporations. An inclusive enterprise's main purpose is to promote, encourage, and make social change by employing in their workforce the maximum possible number of persons with disabilities. Furthermore, this social purpose is carried out in a financially sustainable way and they can sustain themselves over long term. Their models can be expanded or replicated to other communities to generate more impact.

Moreover, unlike other employment models such as sheltered workshops or socio-medical entities, the most outstanding characteristic of inclusive enterprises is that they are based on the fundamental right to work and employment enshrined in Article 27 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (equal opportunities, equal remuneration and safe and healthy working conditions). It means:

An ordinary enterprise or entity with social aims

Active in the ordinary work sector

30 % to 80 % of the employees in an inclusive enterprise are recognised as disabled workers

Ordinary salaries

Long-term contracts

A virtuous system

The State supports inclusive enterprises (according to the legislation in force)

Investment aid / various subsidies

o Tax deductions

o Percentage of the disabled worker's salary

Return on investment for the State:

o Taxation of the worker and the inclusive enterprise

o Optimisation of social benefits expenditure

Impact on the well-being of the worker with disabilities:

Integration into working life

Social impact on people with disabilities, on enterprises, on customers and on society.

Stable and disability-friendly employment

What are the EU's obligations to foster employment for persons with disabilities in the open labour market through the inclusive enterprise?

UN CRPD: Article 27 – Work and Employment;

Social Pillar principles: 3. on equal opportunities, 4. on active support to employment, 5. on secure and adaptable employment, 6. on wages, 7. on information about employment conditions and protection in case of dismissals, 8. on social dialogue and involvement of workers, 10. on healthy, safe and well-adapted work environment and data protection and 17. on the inclusion of people with disabilities;

Sustainable Development Goals: 8. on decent work and economic growth, and 10. on reduced inequality.

4. Pilot Project Objectives:

The pilot project aims to achieve the following goals:

Taking stock of the legal and socio-economic situation of an inclusive enterprise for people with disabilities in the European countries.

Determining the social impact for the disabled person and the impact on society, clients and others.

Reporting and legitimising this employment model – proving the social and economic benefits inclusive enterprises have on people with disabilities. Unlike the protected environment that is linked to the socio-medical framework, inclusive enterprises aim to integrate into the labour world, as a worker, any person with a disability. An inclusive enterprise generally benefits from public financial support. Thanks to the employment of disabled workers, savings are made on many social benefits.

Drafting and promoting a universal European legal framework for inclusive enterprises to create permanent employment that guarantees the realisation of professional projects of people with disabilities in the ordinary labour market.

The most important result that needs to be maximised through an inclusive enterprise is to improve the quality of employment and increase the employment rate of people with disabilities.

5. Pilot Project Actions:

The actions which will be carried out under this pilot project are the following:

1. Research of the situation and legal framework of inclusive enterprises framework in the European countries.

2. Measure the impact of inclusive enterprises on the basis of impact chains (inputs – outputs - outcomes-impact) in a comparison of countries.

a. Define fields of impact: on persons with disabilities, companies, society, national budget

b. Develop impact criteria for inclusive enterprises – objectives/target groups, concept/approach, customers, participation, diversity, resource orientation

c. Conduct surveys

d. Compare approaches / compare impact (inputs - impact)

e. Develop best practices model

f. Recommendations for action by the European Union

3. Results of socio-economic study report on Return on Investment (ROI). An inclusive model should not be perceived as costly burden; it is a successful model that capitalises on the ROI of employing people with disabilities.

6. Partners in the Pilot Project: organisations representing the inclusive enterprises for people with disabilities in Europe, and organisation that work to promote access to employment for people with disabilities at European level

In the implementation phase of this pilot project, the European Confederation of Inclusive Enterprises (EuCIE) could be a good partner which provides to the EU Institutions its knowledge and data since this organisation is the main representative of inclusive enterprises for people with disabilities in Europe.

EuCIE is the union of several countries to promote access to employment for people with disabilities at European level. In fact, the Confederation shares the same model of inclusive company whose organisations represent the main inclusive employers in Belgium-Wallonia (Eweta), France (UNEA), Germany (Bag-if) and Spain (CONACEE) despite the fact that they have established contacts with more European countries where inclusive enterprises exist. According to this pilot project, EuCIE mission is to represent all European inclusive enterprises at European level and its workers with disabilities, working for their recognition, promotion and protection at European level.

7. Conclusions

The most important positive result from the implementation of this pilot project would be to provide the basis for increasing the employment rate of people with disabilities and improving the quality of employment, using an inclusive enterprise for disabled people as a vehicle or tool to achieve it.

On the other hand, access to work on the open labour market is a right that persons with disabilities are entitled to enjoy equally to others. Inclusive employment practices can enable persons with disabilities to have economic independence and to be socially active, helping them to participate in their community. It means building an inclusive society. As a result, inclusive employment practices have been proven to benefit individuals, taxpayers and the wider community.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Some EU countries recognize the inclusive enterprise but there is no EU legal framework that admits this employment model for people with disabilities, guaranteeing access for all to the labour market and ensuring that persons with disabilities accede to quality jobs in line with the European Disability Strategy. It also needs to strengthen obligations for decent wages based on the minimum wage for inclusive enterprise and to better implement existing directives on non-discrimination at work.

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Draft amendment 247

=== EMPL/5624 ===

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 09

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 09							500 000	250 000	500 000	250 000
Reserve										
Total							500 000	250 000	500 000	250 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Future surveyors plan accessibility

Remarks:

Add following text:

1. Aim of the pilot project

The aim of this pilot project is a crossborder exchange of best practices on accessibility in the field of design and implementation of measures for the removal of architectural barriers in the built environment. Thanks to this project, the award-winning students will enrich their knowledge and experience by means of direct observation of classes, sharing and comparing ideas and methodologies applied in their respective Member States and thus exchange and share best practices, ultimately leading to the improvement of general accessibility.

2. The 'Future surveyors plan accessibility' project

The project envisages the organisation of nationwide competitions under the motto "Future surveyors plan accessibility" in a selected number of Member States. The best projects dedicated to the elimination of architectural barriers in the built environment will be rewarded with the aim to stimulate research and actions useful for training students and raising awareness among professors and professionals on the topic of global accessibility.

At the same time, this project will serve as an invaluable tool to help students at Technical Institutes specialising in Construction, Environment and Territory to approach their future profession through practical experience of social value and to compare ideas and methodologies applied in the field of design and realisation of the removal of architectural barriers across the EU.

Students at Technical Institutes specialising in Construction, Environment and Territory, participating in nationwide competitions, will have to carry out a project for the removal of architectural barriers of built environment that comply with the legislation currently in force on accessibility and follow existing norms and guidelines in this sphere.

The projects presented by the institutes will be examined by a special commission that will shortlist the three best projects for each category (urban spaces; public and school buildings; leisure facilities).

The students who designed the best-ranked projects will receive an award at a specially organised ceremony. During this ceremony, the award-winning projects will be presented to the Commission and to the general public.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

General accessibility is an important topic, which deserves attention, especially among students in construction, environment and territory. This PP will be instrumental in exchanging best practices among award-winning students regarding the removal of architectural barriers in the built environment.

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Draft amendment 248

==== EMPL/5625 ===

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 10

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 10							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — MOVE4FREE_EU - Disability and physical activity

Remarks:

Add following text:

1. Aim of the pilot project

The aim of this pilot project is to promote physical activity across Europe as a fundamental tool for the physical and social development of persons with disabilities. This project uses sport as an element of integration and social inclusion of people with disabilities in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and the European Pillar of Social Rights.

2. The MOVE4FREE project

The MOVE4FREE project was launched on the 6th April 2018 in Italy on the occasion of the World Physical Activity Day and aims to promote physical activity as a fundamental tool for the physical and social development of a person. The proposal, promoted by the LIFE AT BEST Association, turns its focus on people with disabilities, so that physical activity can be recognised as an element of inclusion and integration.

So far, almost 20 people joined the MOVE4FREE project in Italy, achieving extraordinary results.

People with paraplegia, wheelchair-bound, benefited greatly from the strength work done on the trunk and upper limbs: greater lumbar abdominal stability, improved mobility and strength of the upper limbs, improved balance on the wheelchair, in cases of subjects with partial marrow lesions, there has been up to 30 % increase in the strength of the lower limbs.

People with psychic disorders have greatly benefited from the integration with able-bodied users and have developed a renewed and better relationship with their body.

3. Description of the pilot project

This PP, which would be named MOVE4FREE_EU, aims to implement a similar tool in other Member States, starting with three Member States in 2021.

MOVE4FREE_EU would address all fitness centres and gyms that offer Personal Training among their services. The objective is the involvement of the greatest possible number of structures, so that the offer of this free service can be widely distributed in a capillary way on the territory of the participating Member States.

The participating structures, subject to prior verification of the pre-established requirements, would reserve 4 hours of personal training per week (with a dedicated instructor for one hour of training) totally free of charge for people who, due to their disability, have difficulty in engaging in physical activity.

Users would have free access to MOVE4FREE_EU gyms by appointment.

The training session can be booked through a website or via e-mail or telephone. Every single user will have the possibility to book a maximum of one hour of training per week, for a limited period of time (at the discretion of the single structure), in order to guarantee access to the service to the greatest number of people.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Move4Free_EU would be a tool and a platform to incentivise all European gyms to offer free personal training service to people with disabilities. The main goals – in line with the EPSR and UNCRPD – are to break down architectural and cultural barriers, to create and reinforce a well-being system for people with disabilities, as well as to serve as an example: gyms, hotels and fitness centres that join this project would

have the opportunity to participate in building a more inclusive society.

Draft amendment 249

=== EMPL/5626 ===

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 11

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 11							9 000 000	9 000 000	9 000 000	9 000 000
Reserve										
Total							9 000 000	9 000 000	9 000 000	9 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Employability and labour market integration of female victims of gender-based violence

Remarks:

Add following text:

INTRODUCTION

The fight against gender violence has become a priority for the Member States and for the EU but it is also a social concern. People are increasingly aware that violence against women is something that any woman could suffer, regardless of her educational, economic or social status.

Social distancing and quarantine due to COVID-19 also have an impact on domestic violence. The number of cases of violence against women has risen significantly in the EU during the lockdown. Hence, all Member States have to strengthen the measures taken to protect women from domestic violence not only during the crisis but also afterwards.

Moreover, recovery will not be an immediate process and many jobs will be lost or working hours reduced, as witnessed in the previous crisis of 2008. Again, women will be most likely affected more severely because of a gendered social mandate regarding care work and it will be even worse for more vulnerable women, victims of gender violence among them.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE DATA IN THE EU

One of the first problems is the fact that the definition of violence against women is not homogeneous in the EU. This leads to poor data and figures that mask enormous variations between Member States and lack of labour and socio-economic information. The largest samples conducted on this issue were in 2014 by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) and in 2019 by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE). Nevertheless, none of these studies made any reference to the social and labour status of the victims of gender violence, such as education level, skills, income level, working status. The European Commission has revealed in the framework of the recently published European Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 that "an EU-wide survey, coordinated by Eurostat, will provide data on the prevalence and dynamics of violence against women and other forms of interpersonal violence, with results presented in 2023".

On the other hand, the European Parliament study "The issue of violence in the European Union" shows, referring to 2011, that the economic costs of violence against women in the EU were estimated to be 228 billion euro each year, out of which "45 billion euro is needed for services for victims, 24 billion for the loss of economic output and 159 billion on pain and suffering".

GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF THE PILOT PROJECT

The aim of this pilot project is to develop and implement a socio-labour integration programme for female

victims of gender violence. Women's economic independence has been proven to be a key tool to tackle gender-based violence, both as a preventive measure and afterwards, in order to improve their self-esteem and overcome a situation of vulnerability that may also affect their children.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE PILOT PROJECT

The pilot project would provide women beneficiaries with the necessary resources and skills to develop in the workplace.

The project would contribute to developing economic independence of the beneficiaries so that they could build a new personal project.

It would facilitate the future job placement of the beneficiaries through specific guidance services and training strategies that favour their access to a job suitable to their specific skills profile in order to achieve full social and labour integration.

BASIS OF THE PROPOSAL

On the one hand, this pilot project takes as a basis the 'SOIB Dona' programme that has been successfully promoted by the Balearic Islands Occupation Service. The main goal of this programme is to grant a job to all female victims of gender-based violence for a whole year. In 2019, more than 250 beneficiaries were hired by some of the 76 active entities that took part in the aforementioned programme – from municipalities and related entities to non-profit organisations. More than 9 million euro was invested in the programme, which is financed by both the State Pact against Gender Violence (Spanish Central Government) and the SOIB (Regional Government).

On the other hand, this pilot project would take as a reference model the one implemented by the Youth Guarantee, since in both cases one of the main goals is to give support to vulnerable groups and provide them subsidised jobs while improving employment opportunities for workers which, as a result, contributes to raising the standard of living.

DESCRIPTION

The aim of this pilot project is to regulate the granting of subsidies to finance total labour costs, including social security contributions, as well as the costs of complementary actions, which result from the recruitment of female victims of gender-based violence. The beneficiaries would be hired by the active entities that would take part in the programme: from municipalities and related entities to business associations and non-profit organisations.

The project is conceived as an employment promotion programme which would provide more autonomy to women through their economic independence, in activities that fall under their professional profile.

At the same time, it would promote labour market integration through the support of labour guidance received by participants throughout the employment contract period. This would improve their employability and subsequent insertion into ordinary firms. Therefore, the ultimate objective is to achieve full social and labour integration of women.

The project should be prepared taking into account the professional background and personal profile of a woman who wishes to be hired. The following aspects should be taken into consideration: training, work experience, personal competences, work interests, personal and socio-family situation and motivation. For this purpose, the social services community should prepare a suitability report on the personal and professional aspects of a woman applying for a concrete project. Likewise, this report should be used to prove the fact that a potential beneficiary is a victim of gender-based violence.

Employment contracts should have a time framework of 2 years, and they should be full time (100 %). Exceptionally and for duly justified reasons, a lower percentage of working hours could be authorised.

The number of beneficiaries could be estimated at around 300, from several Member States, although this figure is conditioned by the different wage costs in each case and in each Member State.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Employability and labour market integration of female victims of gender violence are key tools to overcome gender-based abuses and to get financial autonomy even more with the rise in cases during the lockdown due to COVID-19. Despite the fact that no similar projects are being developed in the EU as a whole and that the thematic objective of this pilot project is focused on promoting employability and combating poverty, the lack of clarity within the European Commission between DG EMPL and DG JUST when it comes to assume the the responsibility has led to a low grade in the pre assessment form

Draft amendment 72

=== PECH/6313 ===

Tabled by Committee on Fisheries

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 08 21 04

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 08 21 04							750 000	375 000	750 000	375 000
Reserve										
Total							750 000	375 000	750 000	375 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Improving the safety and quality of European Aquaculture by Implementing Fish Welfare Indicators

Remarks:

Add following text:

The steps and outputs of the project are:

- 1. Integrate evidence, science and best practices from scientists, policy makers, aquaculture operators, and other experts, developing physiological, behavioural, and environmental fish welfare indicators throughout the production chain, including transport and slaughtering.*
- 2. Produce species-specific factsheets of useful welfare indicators for aquaculture operators to use today.*
- 3. Produce case studies showing how using operational welfare indicators improves sustainability, productivity, and welfare for the major aquaculture species and systems.*
- 4. Identify research gaps and welfare indicators that, although promising, require further investigation to be validated.*
- 5. Disseminate the factsheets and case studies through the Aquaculture Advisory Council, with an event at European Maritime Day, and on the Commission's website.*

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European

Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

This project will enable better implementation of regulations 98/58 General Farming Directive, 1/2005 Animal Transport, 1099/2009 Animal Slaughter, and will inform potential work by a potential EU Reference Centre on fish welfare mandated by regulation 2017/625 Official Controls. The EU Animal Welfare Platform is currently developing welfare guidelines for aquaculture, and this project will strengthen several policy and industry initiatives currently underway and anticipated.

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Draft amendment 153

=== AGRI/2843 ===

Tabled by Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 08 21 XX

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 08 21 XX							2 000 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Cost-effective greening of EU landscapes with the new CAP’s Green Architecture: Helping MS administrations optimise biodiversity aims with farmers' concerns

Remarks:

Add following text:

The new Green Architecture of the CAP offers many possibilities for more effective use of the CAP to improve the conditions for both farmers and the environment. However, it also remains vague as to how this can best be done in consideration of the varying Member States’ (MS) contexts and constraints (biogeographic, natural, political, institutional). The project’s objective is therefore to examine alternative options for MS to align the CAP's Green Architecture, alongside other policy instruments, with the EU's Green Deal, Farm to Fork strategy and the Green Infrastructure Strategy, especially with respect to actions included in the Biodiversity Strategy (generating corridors; achieving 10% agricultural land under landscape features; reaching 25% UAA under organic farming; planting of trees; and promoting agroforestry). Key issues are how to improve spatial planning and the spatial targeting of CAP support, and how to streamline the three key instruments – Agri-Environment-Climate Measures (AECM), Eco-schemes and enhanced Conditionality, both with each other and with other investments – in a way that increases effectiveness, acceptance and cost-efficiency, reduces risks of failures and generates palpable benefits to farmers, biodiversity and thus wider society.

Timing: Although MS are starting to consider the design of their ecoschemes when drafting their strategic plans, the legal basis is still to be decided by the co-legislators. Taking into account delays in implementing the PP, and possibilities of longer negotiations and time needed to arrive at details and guiding principles, it makes sense to launch the process now. In any case, the proposal for the CAP Strategic Plans regulation under negotiation includes provisions for amending the Member States’ CAP strategic plans (Art.107 SPR), especially concerning achieving environmental performance with regard to biodiversity targets (such as for pollinators, etc), therefore the PP would serve to help MS administrations to optimally adjust their green architecture to meet the needs of their obligations, meetings objectives,

farmers' concerns and achieving biodiversity results on the ground.

Rationale

1. Scientific research already indicates what measures are most effective to support biodiversity (e.g. through landscape features, buffer strips, fallow land). However, this knowledge is inefficiently used in the CAP's implementation. Particularly, research shows that improving the spatial design - i.e. spatial targeting of CAP support, inter alia through collaborative implementation by neighbouring groups of farmers, can improve cost-efficiency of the CAP and its coherence both internally and with other policies.

2. Implementation challenges for achieving the biodiversity (as well as climate) goals include low access to knowledge, lack of interfaces for interaction with scientists, and lack of technical support in planning and implementation (such as in simulating the best spatial design and its anticipated impacts). Spatially-targeted programmes are consequently avoided due to the perceived costs of enhanced administrative burdens. Additionally, existing levels of Green Infrastructure vary across European regions meaning that the types of necessary efforts to bring the greatest biodiversity benefits (maintenance, restoration and management) – and accordingly, the best instruments to achieve this, vary among Member States.

3. Additional new challenges, but also opportunities, are generated by the new Green Architecture of the CAP. It is especially critical and urgent to help guide the development of Eco-schemes by MSs, as a new instrument that still requires rigorous design and assessment; and ensure Eco-schemes are optimally aligned with AECM and enhanced conditionality given the strengths and limitations of each instrument. Identifying potential for complementarity and trade-offs may help MSs choose the best implementation paths, and the Commission in guiding the process and monitoring the outcomes.

4. The increase in flexibility to MSs under the new 'Delivery Model' also necessitates a rapid learning process to optimize the interaction between the EU and MSs, and between MS-administration at different levels and local stakeholders (including farmers, NGOs and scientists) - to make best use of existing knowledge and capacities, to expand the range of benefits for participating farmers, and thereby, make AECM and Eco-schemes simpler and more attractive to MSs and farmers.

5. Positive examples do exist, but are hard to scale up due to the complex nature in which different funding instruments of the CAP are interpreted and implemented in different MSs. Consequently, peer-learning and transferability of best practices still falls short of their potential. This requires analysing and testing the CAP components together forming the green architecture rather than focusing on single instruments.

6. The project therefore examines how science can help in designing, consulting and implementing CAP implementation in different parts of the EU, taking into account differences in both socioeconomic and ecological conditions. The project sets particular emphasis on aiding the design of Eco-schemes and improving coherence between CAP elements and how they can best support maintaining and expanding the EU's Green Infrastructure.

The project will produce

- a) recommendations for improving the CAP's implementation over the next funding period,*
- b) an initial proposal for the development of a long-term, multi-scale science-policy interface (from local to EU), to expand and complement AKIS and the work of EIP-Agri*
- c) an assessment of environmental benefits and a proposal for improved remuneration of cooperative farming approaches (e.g. using a point-system), and*
- d) a first version of a simulation-based tool for mapping and visualization, to support decision-makers and farmers in designing and implementing spatially-targeted agri-environmental programmes (across all elements of the Green Architecture), to encourage regional cooperation, and to improve implementation-efficiency.*

7. Key tasks in the project are:

- a. Scanning of the literature, conducting an expert-based consultation and targeted interviews with*

administrators, farmers, advisors and scientists in five to eight Member States, to gather and synthesise knowledge regarding key challenges, opportunities and potential solutions with respect to Green Infrastructure. Product: key recommendations on how to overcome implementation gaps and barriers at the EU and MS level, for each of the CAP's Green Architecture elements (and where possible, beyond them).

b. Establishing and testing a science-policy interface to support the CAP with the most relevant knowledge and access to knowledge-holders. Product: a proposal for a long-term infrastructure to extend and complement AKIS and the work of EIP-Agri, as well as other platforms;

c. Developing and testing (together with stakeholders) scientific tools (mapping, simulations) to address the following questions in target regions in the selected (five to eight) Member States:

c1) what is the existing coverage and quality of natural habitats that can support Green Infrastructure, and how well are they aligned to support Green Infrastructure?

c2) what is missing in terms habitat quality, and how of physical (spatial) barriers could be overcome?

c3) what policy instruments (AECM, Eco-schemes, expanded conditionality, Areas of Nature Constraints, etc.), and alternative combination of these, can best help maintain and restore ecological corridors in the target areas (in light of c2); and to which extent can cooperative implementation of agri-environmental programs help address these challenges?

c4) what are the anticipated outcomes for habitats, species and for farmer communities?

Product: a simulation tool to support spatially-targeted AECM and Eco-schemes and to visualize their potential ecological outcomes.

d. Testing and evaluating different systems to assess the environmental costs and benefits of different environmental measures within relevant contexts and to remunerate farmers and farmer-groups accordingly, e.g. through a pointing system as proposed by farmer organizations.

e. Use the outcomes of a-to-d to support administrators and advisory services in planning and putting in place CAP payments and/or to assist farmers and groups of farmers to access support for spatially-designed programmes in the selected MSs.

f. Provide an overview on existing experience, from both scientific and farmers' perspective, as well as evidence regarding success-factors and barriers to cooperative implementation within the CAP, and outline the potential to address biodiversity decline and habitat degradation.

g. Develop a set of recommendations for the EU and MSs for immediate and longer-term policy adjustments including the design of targets, selection of indicators and their monitoring. Particular focus will be given to guiding Eco-schemes and their combination with AECM and other instruments.

The project aims to generate a longer term, institutional science-policy interface extending beyond AKIS, to make better use of completed, running and future-funded projects, networks and initiatives (e.g. project EKLIPSE; EIP Agri groups, especially EFA and HNV). It has a pilot nature in asking how to better tap on the vast potentials for science, along its many disciplines, to participate, inform and moderate complex policy- and societal transitions. The project should improve communication, trust and cooperation among administrators, farmers, scientists and other stakeholders. It should lead to a preparatory action project, to further test and expand its recommendations and to develop concrete policy proposals, e.g. for integrating the science-policy interface in the communication measures of the RD Programmes.

The project should optimally start as early as possible to accompany the completion of MSs' strategic plans, their evaluation and approval processes, and run into the start of the CAP's next implementation period anticipated 2023.

We estimate that the project requires 2.000.000 Euros for its implementation, particularly for tasks b, c, and d and the engagement of relevant scientists and farmers at the selected MSs.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The Green Deal has opened up examination of how the CAP's Green Architecture helps support environmental objectives. Many scientific projects develop knowledge & tools that can support CAP. Urgently needed is a science-policy interface to gather, synthesise & deliver knowledge to support effective implementation by MS. The 2-year project addresses this gap, & aids policy adjustments e.g. for Eco-schemes, to help MS administrations to optimally adjust their green architecture to meet their objectives & farmers' concerns while achieving biodiversity results on the ground.

Draft amendment 154

=== AGRI/2844 ===

Tabled by Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 08 21 XX

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 08 21 XX							500 000	250 000	500 000	250 000
Reserve										
Total							500 000	250 000	500 000	250 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Preservation of reproductive material from rare autochthonous breeds of pigs

Remarks:

Add following text:

Territory for more than 2 500 years now. It has been having a very important role for the socio-economic life of some regions in South-eastern Europe. It is part of the non-material heritage of Europe. In Bulgaria in 2016 a GI application for GI for Meat from East Balkan swine this breed was initiated.

The African swine fever has turned into a huge obstacle and threat for the breed. A very big part of the pure population has been culled and the breed is under a real thread of extinction with some estimates that the current genetic material might lead to inbreeding and consequently make this breed extinct in the very near future.

The African swine fever has been the reason for the death of millions of pigs in the European Union with no sights of disappearing in the near future or with having a vaccine to treat it. Under a serious risk are pig populations (both domestic and semi-domesticated) in numerous EU member states.

No action towards preservation of the breed might lead to a loss of a naturally adapted breed. This is why a pilot project should help preserve this and the other autochthonous pig breeds by collecting and preserving genetic material from these breeds.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European

level to ensure availability of fresh water for crops at all times and increase resilience of farms during periods of droughts;

Draft amendment 156

=== AGRI/2846 ===

Tabled by Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 08 21 XX

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 08 21 XX							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Farm-level indicators for sustainable agriculture

Remarks:

Add following text:

The European Green Deal requires important changes to ‘the way we produce, consume and trade. Preserving and restoring our ecosystem needs to guide all of our work.’ It is clear that the agricultural sector will have to transform to address climate and environmental issues. At the same time, farmers will have to continue to provide Europeans with nutritious, affordable and safe food. This is only possible if farming remains a profitable business.

Assessing and improving the sustainability of agricultural production depends largely on having indicators and data on these issues. For farmers, the possibility to assess their own performance for improving their environmental and economic sustainability and compare it with those of others (or over time) would be the main motivators for delivering data.

In its Communication ‘A Farm to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system’, the Commission states its intention to develop its Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN) into a Farm Sustainability Data Network by adding to the existing list of collected data on the economic performance of farms a limited list of variables linked to the environmental and climate performance of the farm.

Building on the experience of the FLINT project (<https://www.flint-fp7.eu/>), which developed a data infrastructure for farm level indicators on sustainability, this project will follow a similar approach.

The project will produce the following outputs:

A set of farm-level indicators for environmentally sustainable production that covers the main topics of the Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies (pesticides, fertilisers, emissions, carbon sequestration, antimicrobial resistance, nitrate pollution, animal welfare, biodiversity, circular economy). These indicators will be specific for the main farm animal groups (dairy cows, cattle, pigs, laying hens, broilers, sheep and goats) and the main crop groups (cereals, protein crops, oilseeds, horticulture, orchards, wine).

A collection of relevant farming practices, including IPM, crop rotation, herd and manure management...

A data infrastructure that includes links to animal registers and other existing data sources as well as data transmission to (a designated part of) the FADN database.

A set of benchmarks by which farmers can monitor their own performance in sustainable production vis-à-vis a comparable group of farmers in the same production context and local averages, covering the

economic and environmental sustainability.

The project will collect data for the identified indicators from representative groups of farms for each animal and crop group in the main producing countries in the EU. The data will feed into the calculation of relevant benchmarks and reports for farmers' own feedback or to be used in discussions with farm advisors. It will also provide homogenous representative information at Member State and EU levels.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

This PP closes a gap in the collection of farm indicators.

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Draft amendment 65

=== ENVI/5414 ===

Tabled by Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 09 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 09 21 01							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Best Belt - more power for the Green Belt

Remarks:

Add following text:

Where once the iron curtain separated countries from each another, nature now connects them in a unique continuity of natural habitats which span the length of the European continent.

The European Green Belt runs along/through 16 EU countries, five candidate countries, one potential candidate and two non-EU countries. This is Europe's longest green network, a flagship of green infrastructure, which must be protected and conserved for future generations.

Building on the success of the BEST (voluntary scheme for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Territories of European overseas) initiative, we suggest implementing a similar scheme for such services along the European Green Belt for young volunteers or jobseekers.

The project shall therefore be called BEST BELT (Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and Training along the European Green BELT)

Actions could be based on:

Training and education of young volunteers/jobseekers for biodiversity and ecosystem services:

Volunteers and jobseekers from all over Europe and participating countries should have the possibility to apply via a platform offered by the EU Commission to different projects along the European Green Belt.

These projects can be facilitated by NGOs/ Universities /Companies/ State or regional authorities. Before diving into fieldwork, the volunteers/jobseekers shall receive a training on biodiversity and ecosystem services facilitated and they shall be prepared for the work they are going to do on site. Also, units for working in a multicultural environment as well as harassment courses shall be part of the trainings before the field work. This would increase their knowledge and networks.

Ecosystem and Biodiversity services in combination with climate change adaptation and mitigation:

The work facilitated in the area of the European Green Belt shall be used to explore the synergies of providing ecosystem and biodiversity together with climate change adaptation and mitigation measures. Activities for designation and management of protected areas shall be carried out in the field. Together with experts, specific goals shall be set for each project, identifying the work needed on the ground.

Capacity building and outreach activities and involving organisations in the Region:

This project should also involve local communities and different actors in the field. The works happening on the ground shall be explained to the communities and also local authorities shall be trained on the links between interconnected environmental issues (biodiversity, climate change and land degradation) and related processes.

Best practice examples shall be shared along projects on the belt and each year a competition between the projects for innovative ideas/work shall be held.

For further outreach also Member States, NGOs, regional organisations and International Organisations shall be involved in a multi stakeholder approach. A blueprint could be the Green List approach developed by the IUCN.

Setting up of a network/database:

The participating organisations shall contribute to a European Green Belt wide open source database, setting out different parameters from biodiversity to climate change relevant information. This database could help monitor the situation on the ground and provide valuable information for scientists and researchers from different areas.

Raising awareness for the importance of biodiversity:

By connecting activities for ecosystem preservation and restoration with information given to tourists travelling the Iron Curtain Trail, education on environmental issues can be spread easily and in a low-threshold fashion. Different levels of knowledge, adapted to e.g. families, can make the Iron Curtain Trail more attractive, thus fostering sustainable tourism.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The connection between biodiversity, climate change and land degradation becomes more obvious every day. Restoring and protecting Europe's longest green network, the European Green Belt, is an integral part of strengthening the Green Infrastructure in the EU.

This project could contribute to the Green Deal as well as to the Biodiversity Strategy, strengthen the social pillar and explain the value of nature protection not only to the project participants but also to a wide audience of inhabitants and tourists.

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Draft amendment 66

=== ENVI/5415 ===

Tabled by Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 09 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 09 21 01							1 950 000	975 000	1 950 000	975 000
Reserve										
Total							1 950 000	975 000	1 950 000	975 000

Heading:

Pilot project — International Wild Meat Trafficking: developing new tools and policies to halt this underreported crime in the EU

Remarks:

Add following text:

=== *This pilot project has already received the support of 8 Member States (AT, BE, DK, ES, FR, LT, LU, PT).* ===

Despite European legislation (Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009, Regulation (EC) No 206/2009 and council regulation (EC) No338/97) forbidding wild meat trafficking, significant quantities are regularly exported to European countries taking advantage of the technical difficulty to detect and differentiate wild meat from livestock at a national level and the total absence of data concerning intra-European trade which makes collaboration between member states challenging.

In the absence of figures on the reality of this illegal trade, and sometimes due to lack of means, the control of meat and animal products is generally not prioritized in comparison to some other types of international traffic. Several scientific studies in France, Belgium, Switzerland and Germany have revealed that a high volume (between 40 and 270 tonnes per airport) of wild meat illegally enters the EU every year. These quantities are much higher than those currently reported in the EU-TWIX Database by the Member States corresponding to seizures made either at the borders by customs or inside the countries.

Objective:

A pan-European study is needed to effectively estimate:

(i) The full scale and nature of the international illegal wild meat trade from third countries in Europe.

The scale of trafficking, as well as the routes used need to be studied in order to prevent blind spots in the bio-surveillance across Europe, where products can circulate easily without controls once inside the EU.

(ii) The risks wild meat trafficking poses for biodiversity in exporting countries and in Europe.

The proportion of internationally protected species concerned by this trade would be determined through the genetic identification of species involved in the trafficking; determination of their CITES status, age of the animals hunted (adults/juveniles), the tracing of their origin using DNA-based techniques and the risk for species that are not yet under most threatened CITES or IUCN categories would also be evaluated.

The risks for European biodiversity including through the import of exotic pests and pathogens would be assessed using the latest genomics tools.

(iii) The most efficient tracking methods for wildlife conservation.

Hard data collected in a rigorous manner will ultimately permit the design of appropriate sampling and

testing procedures and adoption of measures for controls, to improve collaborations between specialised services in different Member States, and refine the artificial intelligence-based algorithms currently used by customs officials to target detailed controls and checks of imported goods. Beside extensively feeding the EU-TWIX database, this study will provide insights and guidance on how to improve this reporting mechanism and the collaborative work between security agents across EU member states.

(iv) The new/innovative tools needed to more adequately fight the illegal import of bushmeat and wildmeat into the EU, including the possible need for new legislation.

By engaging with key stakeholders in the different EU Member States, the researchers will assess the feasibility and suitability of new regulations, eventually completing existing ones for their better implementation (e.g. the establishment of a customs' declaration form to be completed by all passengers when entering the EU; the harmonization of penalties through the EU; the transformation of current recommendations into constraining instruments), and/or of new programs and/or methodologies/technologies.

By generating insights on the international illegal wild meat trade in Europe and the current legislation's and control's implementation challenges and by developing new ideas and scientific tools to enhance seizure rates, this study would give the EU and national policymakers input for further policy conceptualisation and design, and so pave the way towards harmonized controls in the EU to halt wildlife trade.

This study would thus participate in and go beyond the implementation of the European Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking, adopted in 2016, which encourages increased collaboration and joined actions of the Member States to effectively fight against international crime, but is not constraining. The CITES and CBD groups held a joined meeting on issues related to wild meat in 2011, with a view to reinforcing their collaboration, as this remains a preoccupation in both conventions. In the long term, this study would also help fill the knowledge gaps jointly recognized by the Convention of Biodiversity and the World Health Organization in the State of Knowledge Review on interlinkage between Biodiversity and Human Health.

The qualitative and quantitative associated risks to public health in Europe could be partly deduced from the determination of the species imported and the respective quantities thereof. This could encourage investments of Member States in better regular controls, that would benefit both biodiversity and health aspects.

Methods:

1) Actions with the aim to seize illegal meat, including wild meat, will take place at European ports and airports considered to be among the most active entry-points for wild meat from Africa and Asia into Europe and would be overseen by the research teams in collaboration with custom officers.

The project will focus, over the 2-year pilot period, on key airports, ports, train stations in Europe and on connections between those Member States and members of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). Contacts have been established with relevant CITES and sanitary authorities in Belgium, France, The Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland (EFTA member). Those Member states have expressed wide interest for the study and official approvals have been given or are under way to be signed (to be provided upon request); this in line with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009, and the biosafety prescriptions described in the Annex of this project. Seizures made in those entry gates and connection trails would be identified, and the annual volumes and routes to and from these places estimated.

2) In parallel, the researchers will liaise with the authorities of other entry points of wild meat from Africa and Asia into the EU. Information sessions would be given to raise the interest of custom officers, data on the current seizures would be collected, in order to make a more comprehensive analysis of seizures and fluxes.

3) Regular exchanges of the researchers with concerned actors at the national levels will allow discovering national differences in the management of the issue, in particular management of controls at entry points, and the main local challenges or opportunities. This would consequently help to develop and

propose relevant more harmonized procedures and new techniques, leading to strengthening the cooperation between concerned countries to fight this wildlife crime and its associated threats.

4) The quantities seized at the main entry points will be recorded and paired with an analysis of the different routes and means of transport to estimate total illegal wild meat flows into Europe.

5) Samples from the wild meat seized will be regularly transferred to expert laboratories (while respecting international norms to be in line with Regulation (EC)1069/2009) to accurately genetically identify the specimens, using an analytical and bioinformatics framework proven since 2015 (the online identification tool 'DNABUSHMEAT', produced by UPS). The risk to the European biodiversity will be determined using Next Gen Sequencing analytical tools on selected samples.

6) In parallel to the analysis of seizures collected in the key strategic places, an ethnographic approach, based on participatory observation, interviews and informal discussions would be performed to help identify the drivers of this illegal international wild meat traffic, notably in the African and Asiatic communities established in Europe.

7) A final report, translated in different EU languages, outlining the recommendations, results and outcomes will be shared with all EU-Members states under the auspice of the European Parliament.

Context:

According to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), bushmeat or wild meat corresponds to the flesh of any wild terrestrial animal intended for consumption in the tropical regions. Wildlife trafficking has become one of the world's most profitable types of organised crime. Wild meat poaching is a known threat to biodiversity due to the continuous demand in rural areas, where it remains an essential source of proteins, the growing demand in African and Asian urban centres and also to the increased international trade.

The wild meat trade is a parallel, illegal economy that generates billions of euros each year. It touches on a full range of international actors and complex commodity chains. In the exporting countries the poaching and selling of wild meat, including CITES-protected species, is favoured by the lack of strong legislation in combination with weak implementation. In Europe penalties for importing illegal meat are low and rarely imposed while rewards from transporting wild meat are potentially high with wild meat being sold at prices 25 to 200 times higher in European markets than in Africa or Asia. Thus the potentially high retribution for transporting wild meat associated with the low risk of punishment drives wild meat trade into Western countries (see video on the international bushmeat trade in Europe: <https://youtu.be/Rn3O8iu5Ewo>).

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Despite legislation forbidding such trafficking, hundreds of tons of wild meat are regularly exported to Europe by air, sea, road and rail. Among these, primates, pangolins, reptiles, all on the top of the CITES list of endangered species.

A pan-European study is needed to estimate the full scale of this trafficking and the risks it poses for biodiversity in exporting countries and in Europe. New and effective ways to trace and fight this trafficking need to be identified, in line with the 2016 EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking and EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.

Draft amendment 49

=== JURI/6413 ===

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 09 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 09 21 01							400 000	200 000	400 000	200 000
Reserve										
Total							400 000	200 000	400 000	200 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Integrating AI into the circular economy

Remarks:

Add following text:

Europe is well placed to benefit from the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a user, as a creator, and as a producer. It has excellent research centres, innovative start-ups, a world-leading position in robotics, and competitive manufacturing and services sectors. Europe produces more than a quarter of all industrial and professional service robots, and plays an important role in developing and using software applications for companies and organisations, as well as applications to support e-government.

Europe has developed a strong computing infrastructure, and it holds large volumes of public and industrial data. However, although the European digital solutions can advance the circular economy, support the decarbonisation of all sectors and reduce the environmental and social footprint of products placed on the EU market, the sector needs to undergo its own green transformation yet. The significant environmental footprint of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector is estimated at 5-9% of the world's total electricity use, and more than 2% of all emissions. These figures will only increase in the coming years.

Europe needs energy-efficient data centres, telecommunications and ICT-related industries that use renewable energy sources, reuse waste energy in every step of their activity, are corporate socially responsible and committed to the community where they execute their activity. All AI-related equipment should be designed, bought, consumed and recycled under energy efficient principles and fully circular processes -long-lasting designs, proper maintenance, built with recycled material and easy dismantling and recycling.

The push to advance AI leads companies towards competing to build stronger models that deliver better performance. However, this market race poses a great threat to the environment, as the larger the model, the more energy it consumes.

Some studies indicate that the computations required for deep-learning research -a branch of AI that configures computers to perform tasks through experience- have increased 300.000 times from 2012 to 2018. Testing AI models is energy-intensive as it is very "data hungry" -the more data it consumes, the more energy is required. The fundamentals of AI testing also involve taking large matrices and multiplying them to make them larger and more skilled. As they grow, the model becomes more accurate, as the same time that the more energy is wasted since more computations are needed to execute the training.

In order to see all-sized AI-related European corporations thrive as they contribute to reach the EU climate neutral objectives, and become socially responsible, the Pilot Project will provide guidance for AI-related industries to access the technology, the systems and the best practices that allow them to incorporate all their industry processes into the circular economy.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The Pilot Project will provide the guidance needed for all AI-related industries to access the technology, the systems and the best practices that allow them to incorporate all their industry processes into the circular economy.

In a series of events, it encourages industry, science and academia to exchange strategies and best practices.

Draft amendment 280 === REGI/6259 ===

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 09 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 09 21 01							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Green Deal for Energy Transition to remoted areas: The case of the Traditional windmills of Lasithi Plateau at Crete

Remarks:

Add following text:

Lasithi Plateau is located in Crete Island, Greece at an altitude of 800 meters beyond the sea consisting of 16 villages and 2.387 inhabitants. Since the 1890's it was there founded the world's oldest and largest windmill park, using the creation of a local craftsmen patent. The park was numbering 10,000 windmills by the end of 1970s offering an astonishing spectacle. The thousands of windmills were used to irrigate the fields by pumping water from the wells spread to 20,000 acres of the Lasithi plateau. Today the windmills stand idle, without the sails spreading as the evolution of technology in irrigation surpasses them.

Our goal is the pilot introduction - installation and conversion of windmills into energy ones, while maintaining the unique image of the traditional Lasithi type windmill. Already in collaboration with the Wind Energy Laboratory of the Hellenic Mediterranean University and of local stakeholders, such a Windmill has already been created. The resulting innovation is unique, as with the reconstruction of the traditional windmill invented in 1890s, the intangible cultural heritage, the tradition of the locals craftsmen comes together, with the modern evolution of the use of wind energy for electricity generation.

The proposal aims at the pilot implementation of traditional techniques for energy autonomy of the entire area of the Municipality of Lasithi Plateau, the most mountainous Municipality of Crete. In addition, the proposal aims to build windmills in the Municipality's facilities, giving jobs to dozens of young people, contributing to the European Union's policies for the relocation of the countryside. Securing resources

from the use of the Union's financial instruments is vital to the realization of this vision.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The funding of the energy traditional windmill promotes research, technology and innovation with respect to the environment and the cultural identity throughout the region, reviving the cultural landscape and without altering nature. Aid is given to the production of products with a zero energy footprint, the creation of new jobs, the sustainable tourism development with increased visibility, and financial support for the social structures of the mountainous Lasithi Plateau Municipality. The project could be applicable also for other Member States with traditional windmills.

Draft amendment 442

=== AFET/6572 ===

Tabled by Committee on Foreign Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Article PP 15 21 — 2021

Amend figures as follows:

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 15 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 15 21 01							1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000

Heading:

Pilot project - European Observatory on the fight against Impunity

Remarks:

Add following text:

The Pilot Project (PP) aims at setting up a European Observatory on the fight against impunity (EOI) built on the necessity to promote the fight against impunity for serious violations of human rights and crimes against humanity having the principle of accountability as a central pillar of the architecture of international justice.

The objective of the EOI should be to provide an EU-wide approach aimed at ensuring a proper involvement of the parliamentary dimension and scrutiny both at European and National levels.

The PP should be based on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law. To fill the gap of impunity, the PP would serve the purpose of addressing the most sensitive issues in the

international human rights law context (e.g. extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances) as well as the needs of the most vulnerable groups (e.g. children, youth, women, minorities and internally displaced persons). This includes shaping solutions for eliminating possible obstacles for victims to access justice and to promote international justice systems, including transitional justice where accountability is most at risk.

Putting in place a permanent EU structure for monitoring and delivering activities in this field could really improve the fight against impunity and the principle of accountability.

The main activities of the EOI would include:

1) Raising awareness on unreported situations and human rights violations, notably as a concrete follow-up to European Parliament's urgency resolutions, identifying and supporting relevant bodies and actors on the ground and coordinating actions in close cooperation with all relevant EU and international bodies and mechanisms; establishing a platform to amplify the voice of the victims and the EU's response in that respect.

Monitoring widespread impunity for human rights violations and attacks on the role of the International Criminal Court, considering the joint communication to the European Parliament and the Council on the EU action plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020 -2024;

2. Supporting the work of the European Genocide Network and create synergies in order to ensure a parliamentary dimension via a close cooperation between national authorities (Parliaments), European Parliament, parliamentary assemblies in third countries and civil society organisations; giving support to the judiciary to investigate and prosecute international crimes and assessing the common efforts of the EU Member States and the European Union in enforcing criminal law and jurisprudence notably by the adoption of relevant legislation and building necessary networks with official and non-official representatives at national and European levels;

3. Advocating in favour of multidisciplinary accountability systems (including the ICC) and reparation processes in challenging environments, bridging the gap between mechanisms and victims (also called "survivors") by ensuring a victim-centred approach;

4. Enhancing the profile and visibility of the EU engagement on the fight against impunity through an annual high-level event (eg. European Days to Combat impunity), targeted campaigns and the publication of reports, and creating new partnerships and networks worldwide with a potential multiplying effect at multilateral, regional and local level;

5. Contributing to implement the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development (goal 16) and its objective of designing better accountability mechanisms, providing access to justice for all and promoting peaceful and inclusive societies.

Justification:

Impunity constitutes a severe threat to international peace and security, as well as a major challenge and a priority objective for the EU. It is necessary for the EU to contribute to the efforts to respond effectively to serious crimes and gross violations of human rights. It is crucial to have a consistent and effective EU-wide approach aimed at ensuring a proper involvement of the parliamentary dimension and scrutiny both at European and National levels throughout a dedicated mechanism. This action is a contribution to the SDG 16.

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 15 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 15 21 01							830 000	415 000	830 000	415 000
Reserve										
Total							830 000	415 000	830 000	415 000

Heading:

Pilot project — “BlackSea4All” Project - Building partnerships on a regional level for the generation of knowledge, projects and policy guidelines for the Black Sea Synergy region

Remarks:

Add following text:

The present pilot project aims to contribute to the implementation of the EU Black Sea Synergy initiative, through targeted activities to support policy dialogue, capacity building and research and innovation, in connection with the thematic cooperation fields that have been identified with less progress but with great potential and of interest for the region: culture, tourism, education, transport and energy.

In particular, the project will identify pilot activities and concrete project ideas with emphasis on the promotion of innovation to address regional needs and opportunities, especially in light of the current, global challenges that require states’ and people’s adaptation to new demands in the post-COVID-19 era.

In terms of policy framework, the project will promote constructive dialogue with policy-makers to ensure their commitment and support to research and development, during and beyond the project’s duration.

Capacity building activities will be developed to support the implementation of the concrete actions proposed by the project, placing emphasis on the empowerment of the youth and women. Special attention will be paid to skills development related to digital literacy through targeted e-activities and training.

The pilot project is a follow-up to the Regional Stakeholders Conference ‘Black Sea Synergy: the way forward’ (Athens, 7 November 2019) that motivated regional stakeholders and set the basis for pursuing a more targeted cooperation.

It builds on the results of the recent EU Joint Staff Working Document ‘Black Sea Synergy: review of a regional cooperation initiative – period 2015 -2018’ and the recommendations of the Council’s conclusions on the EU’s engagement to the Black Sea regional cooperation (17 June 2019) that reaffirmed the practical value of the BSS and called for coordinated action and productive cooperation among regional stakeholders for a result-oriented management of policies, services and products.

The Project’s objectives are:

- In the short term, the pilot project will succeed to propose concrete ideas for tailor-made joint activities and research projects in the targeted cooperation fields, to be considered by future EU, regional and national Programmes and/or to be funded by other funding mechanisms.

- In the medium- and long-term, the project will contribute to the creation of the optimal framework conditions in terms of capacity building and policies, to support the capitalization of research and innovation.

The Project’s activities will take into account the developments in the policy landscape at regional, European (e.g. ENI, Green Deal, EU Strategy Connecting Europe and Asia), and international levels and will build on past achievements and lessons learnt. Indicatively:

1) Mapping of thematic patterns of cross-border cooperation and of existing projects and initiatives;

2) Assessment of national R&I systems, especially in light of the current, unprecedented developments (also, provide feedback to the EU Research and Innovation Observatory);

- 3) *Policy dialogue activities and policy mix peer reviews;*
- 4) *Development of targeted e-activities (webinars, online training tools, virtual thematic platforms);*
- 5) *Regional Multi-Stakeholders Thematic Workshops in each non-EU Black Sea Synergy country, on the different thematic cooperation fields and cross-cutting issues;*
- 6) *Mobility scheme to support at least, 15 young researchers to participate in brokerage events in the EU Member States;*
- 7) *Final Regional Stakeholders Conference to present the results of the project.*

The Project's partnership should consist of key partners that promote research and cooperation in the targeted region, to ensure the active involvement of all target groups, namely policy-makers, Local and Regional Authorities, industry, academia and civil society, as well as, the geographical coverage of the whole BSS region.

For optimum results, partners should make good use of their established synergies with other initiatives targeting the region i.e. Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea (CMA), Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for the Black Sea (SRIA), EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR); with regional organizations (BSEC, Black Sea Commission); and other relevant forms of regional cooperation (in the Adriatic-Ionian, the Atlantic, the Baltic, and the Mediterranean Seas).

Target groups: special attention will be paid to facilitate interdisciplinary and multilateral approach, to encourage the engagement of all involved stakeholders, i.e. policy-makers, Regional and/or Local Authorities, business sector, national agencies, academia, research centres, civil society, and placing special focus on the youth and women.

Proposed duration of this Pilot Project: 22 months

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The feedback from the Regional Stakeholders Conference on 'Black Sea Synergy: the way forward' (Athens, 7 November 2019), shows clearly the interest and motivation of regional stakeholders to pursue a more active cooperation with the EU Black Sea Synergy initiative through tailor-made activities with tangible results for the region and its citizens. The project partners' profile should ensure the involvement of all target groups as well as, the full geographical coverage of the target region.

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Draft amendment 50

=== JURI/6414 ===

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 20 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 20 21 01							500 000	250 000	500 000	250 000
Reserve										
Total							500 000	250 000	500 000	250 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Database for online-clearing of A1 certificates

Remarks:

Add following text:

Since Regulation (EC) 883/2004 came into effect in 2010, employers (or employees) have been legally obliged to report any cross-border activity within the EU / EEA and Switzerland to their responsible insurance provider. The responsible insurance institution then issues an A1 certificate. The A1 certificate is proof that the employee is subject to the social security regulations of his country of origin.

For many, especially small and medium-sized companies, this leads to a considerable bureaucratic burden and more and more often to fines.

Proposition for a pilot project:

Setup of a European database that can be accessed by national authorities when the need arises to check social security obligations of employees abroad (i.e. spot-checks). Such an online clearing system would strengthen the internal market and the freedom to provide services, while at the same time providing for the possibility to carry out checks to prevent social security fraud. This system would shift the bureaucratic burden away from the individual towards the controlling authorities. The pilot database could be based on the Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information (EESSI) established in July 2019.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The current provisions for cross-border employment (even for very short business-trips) continues to cause considerable resentment among EU citizens and many small and medium-sized companies. In many European countries, a missing A1 certificate is punished with sanctions or fines. This situation damages the internal market as well as the reputation of the EU and needs to be amended as soon as possible. At the same time it would be an ideal pilot project striving for a "Europe fit for the digital age".

Draft amendment 110

=== LIBE/5817 ===

Tabled by Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 20 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 20 21 01							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Education Platform on Rule of Law

Remarks:

Add following text:

OBJECTIVE

This pilot project will develop an educational package with interactive modules on the Rule of Law for pupils in secondary education across the EU. The modules will be available at an online platform that will also facilitate virtual exchange between teachers all over the EU. These interactive modules on Rule of Law will be in all the official languages of the EU, meant to help schools and teachers to develop knowledge about the Rule of Law.

BACKGROUND

Respect for the rule of law is a critical component for membership of the Union and it is essential to ensure the democratic functioning of both the Member States and the Union as a whole. Respect for the rule of law is a prerequisite for people's enjoyment of their fundamental rights. Similarly, a European area of justice, as well as an internal market in which laws are applied uniformly, cannot exist without full adherence to the rule of law. The rule of law underpins any democratic society and fosters citizen's trust in public institutions, including in the justice system.

In recent years however, the rule of law in the EU has been put to the test on several occasions. European institutions and several Member States' governments have voiced their concern about Rule of Law backsliding. In its many resolutions regarding the deterioration of the rule of law, the European Parliament has emphasized that the Commission is responsible under the Treaties for guaranteeing respect for the rule of law as a fundamental value of the Union.

As part of its response to these challenges, the Commission presented its Communication 'Further strengthening the Rule of Law within the Union' in April 2019, in which it identified three pillars for the effective enforcement of the rule of law. The first pillar is promotion, and refers to building knowledge on the rule of law and fostering a common rule of law culture. Following this Communication, the Commission received contributions from a broad diversity of stakeholders. A large majority of the contributions emphasize that more awareness needs to be raised among the general public on the existing rule of law standards, such as through civil society and education.

Studies confirm the lack of knowledge of EU citizens regarding the rule of law. The July 2019 Special Eurobarometer study on the rule of law shows that even though the vast majority considers the principles of the rule of law highly important, most EU citizens do not feel sufficiently informed about the EU's fundamental values. Citizens, particularly younger people, can benefit from a deeper understanding of the Rule of Law. As the Venice Commission has pointed out: 'The rule of law can only flourish in a country whose inhabitants feel collectively responsible for the implementation of the concept, making it an integral part of their own legal, political and social culture.'

In the Commission's July 2019 'Blueprint for Action', it acknowledges that Member States' education systems play a part in strengthening the rule of law 'by ensuring a place for the rule of law in public debate and education'. However, understanding and awareness of the rule of law is hardly ever taught in schools within the EU. Since the 2015 'Declaration on promoting citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education' adopted in Paris, many Member States have integrated citizenship education in their national curricula. A 2017 study by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency however shows that Rule of Law is not a focus point in teaching on citizenship education, leading to a knowledge gap in the younger generation.

The Education Platform on Rule of Law seeks to fill this gap. This pilot project will make steps in strengthening the knowledge and respect for the rule of law through education by developing tools and content, which teachers in the EU can integrate in their teaching and learning practices.

IMPLEMENTATION

Educational package: interactive modules and exchange space for teachers

In order to fill the abovementioned knowledge gap, this pilot project will focus on the generation of knowledge on the rule of law among young people. To achieve this, the fund will:

Develop an educational package of interactive modules that will be available online in all official EU languages, which will be offered to teachers in secondary schools all over the EU as a means to complement their learning materials related to society, justice and citizenship education;

Create an online space of exchange for teachers across the EU that work with the package.

The educational package should contain at least the following elements:

Understanding the rule of law and its main principles (such as equality before the law, separation of powers, access to justice, etc.)

The importance and history of the rule of law in national constitutions and within the European Union

The interconnectedness between the rule of law and fundamental rights, democracy and citizenship;

Practical tools, videos and interactive exercises to debate the rule of law in relation to the pupils' life, society and community.

Organisational set up

The content of the educational package should be developed by an independent organisation or network, with expertise on the rule of law, didactics and online platforms to ensure that the content of the package is both relevant and factual, as well as accessible to secondary school pupils.

The 2019 guide 'Strengthening the Rule of Law through Education' published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), can be a useful starting point.

DESIRED RESULTS

*assisting teachers and schools in developing courses on the rule of law in their member states and the EU
fostering knowledge on the rule of law among young EU citizens and contributing to a common rule of law culture*

increasing the sense of ownership of European values by paying attention to the rule of law in each Member State's constitutional order

building capacity related to rule of law education on an European, national and local level by increasing the availability of guidance material and facilitating the exchange of best practices

contributing to the development and critical thinking skills of the younger generation by supporting existing citizenship education

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Despite existing EU programmes which support the development of content and educational packages and the exchange of best practices, such as the Erasmus+ programme, the e-Twinning platform and the School Education Gateway multilingual platform, there is currently no dedicated EU education platform promoting the rule of law in secondary education. Given that education can aid in strengthening the rule of law, this project aims to fill this gap by fostering knowledge on the rule of law among young EU citizens and thereby

contributing to a common rule of law culture.

Draft amendment 111

=== LIBE/5818 ===

Tabled by Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 20 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 20 21 01							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Support local media in fighting disinformation and promote media literacy

Remarks:

Add following text:

The grants proposed for this pilot project have two main objectives:

- to offer financial support to independent local media, promoting quality fact-based information fighting disinformation;

- to increase media literacy within local communities.

1) The first objective of this pilot project aims at establishing a permanent fund for supporting independent local journalists and independent local media outlets. The aim is to provide financial resources to increase the sustainability of local media outlets, allowing journalists to create independent quality content, fact-checking information to fight the spread of disinformation targeted at the European public. Strengthening local media will enable them to cooperate and benefit from the EU wide fact-checking initiatives.

Quality local journalism is the main pillar of a free press and a functioning democracy, but in order to continue to publish fact-based information and reveal wrongdoing it requires proper resources and tools. This branch of the profession is under threat precisely due to the lack of financial resources. Independent local journalists face the choice of continuing their work providing quality fact-based content independently, or join large media conglomerates controlled by media oligarchs, or switch to producing more commercial content. An EU financial instrument available to local media outlets would allow journalists to sustainably continue conducting their work and to use synergies with other fact-checking initiatives that are targeted to larger media outlets. As media ownership becomes more and more concentrated and large media outlets are controlled and/or under the influence of media oligarchs, sustainability becomes a major challenge for journalists working independently within small media outlets. Quality independent local journalism is under threat as more and more journalists decide to abandon the profession for other more sustainable activities that guarantee their income. Supporting local media would make an important contribution to strengthening press freedom in the EU and the Member States.

Independent local journalists are the main vector for delivering quality fact-based, fact-checked information to the EU citizen. Providing adequate funding for independent local media would increase the efficiency of the fight against the spread of fake news within the Union. The mechanism would address the issue of disinformation at a local level, raising awareness about disinformation within small local communities. Creating a dedicated EU financial instrument for supporting local journalists would therefore be in the direct benefit of EU citizens.

Among the projects this fund could support are actions of documenting and investigating the use of EU funds at local level, covering expenses related to the access to documents ensuring accurate fact-based reporting, as well as subscriptions to software programmes and digital tools, all allowing them to reveal fake news and provide the accurate side of information.

2) The second objective of this pilot project is to increase media literacy within local communities. This aim would be attained by setting up partnership programmes between local media representatives and local civil society organisations, schools and universities, using best practices available within the EU. The purpose of these partnerships would be to engage local community members of different ages and socio-economic backgrounds into media literacy activities and to adapt special programmes targeted at the different interest groups. Such activities would include preparing and delivering courses in schools and universities, as well as in community centres and public libraries. This would allow journalists to reach out to small local communities and increase critical thinking capacity, as well as digital skills and ethical behaviour in social media.

The grants would cover thereby costs related to acquiring or developing digital tools, renting venues, organising travel within local communities, acquiring the necessary equipment, developing new resources for promoting critical thinking and enhancing digital skills.

The proposed financial instrument would be created to the benefit of legal entities (professional organizations and associations, consortiums, editors, publishers), without precluding individuals such as freelancers from applying to grants (provided that they meet adequate criteria that will have to be studied as part the project). The grants available through the fund should be managed by an independent intermediary organization without national links. Assessment of applications for funding should be made by a joint team composed of members of the EC, journalists and other relevant experts.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Independent local journalists and media literacy professionals have very limited resources. They face the challenges of a concentrated media ownership landscape and struggle finding the means to support themselves, while remaining in the profession. They are a key vector in fighting disinformation through producing fact-checked quality content, and with adequate resources, they can continue to be an essential tool in increasing media literacy as well. In order to achieve their goal, these professionals need direct financial support.

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Draft amendment 109

=== LIBE/5816 ===

Tabled by Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 20 21 02

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 20 21 02							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000
Reserve										
Total							2 000 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 000 000

Heading:

Pilot project — European Narrative Observatory to fight Disinformation post-COVID19

Remarks:

Add following text:

The current pandemic is not only a situation of unprecedented hazard for the life and wellbeing of the European citizens. It is also a major challenge for the fragile web of trust that connect the citizens with their states and the EU. The proposed observatory will examine the shift in narratives towards Europe and the nation state during and following the COVID19 pandemic, providing basic recommendations for effective communication and to protect against disinformation campaigns.

The availability and quality of information is crucial to effective functioning of society, especially in a time of crisis. A lot of false information regarding COVID19 is currently spreading in societies, especially via social media. One of the main strategies for fighting fake news is debunking, a strategy of confronting it with facts and accepted theories. Unfortunately, existing debunking strategies have proven very ineffective, especially as it does not work with individuals that have strong belief in false information.

Research shows that Twitter, YouTube, Facebook and other influential social media provide a crucial boost for the international network of disinformation (Smith and Graham 2019). Feeding on fear and chaos, spreading fake news and misinterpreting the data, these agents are stronger than ever (Fernández-Luque and Bau 2015). However, social media provide not only a new set of tools for spreading disinformation but also a great weapon against it.

Recent research demonstrates the important role of narratives in framing facts and information in a package that can be easily transmitted across society and how studying narratives can be the key to better understanding how ideas spread across social media and why certain ideas take hold over others. The use of this methodology in understanding the flow of information during the COVID19 outbreak could be vital in finding a different way to inform society and to keep disinformation and misinformation at bay.

The project will create a European Observatory on the Narrative Distribution to monitor and analyse how new narratives are created and spread within European public discourse, decipher the emotional values that guide successful narratives, map sources and key actors active in the spreading of these narratives and develop recommendations for effective communication and policy.

Building on the work developed for the European Commission funded study on ‘Mechanisms that Shape Social Media and their Impact on Society’ the project developed by Re-Imagine Europa and the Center for Systemic Risk Research at the University of Warsaw, the Observatory would identify the dominant narratives by combining Natural Language Processing and more traditional methods of qualitative narratology. Using advanced algorithms and analysing the most qualitatively representative examples it would establish dominant narrative patterns and answer questions such as: ‘How is the ongoing crisis influencing the dominant models, metaphors and narratives shaping our perception of identity and community?’ ‘Are the European values at risk in an increasing polarized and weaponized information ecosystem?’ ‘How are external actors manipulating European public discourse to sow discord and fracture society?’ ‘What are the values and narratives that unite and separate us?’ ‘How are our different value systems and experiences shaping the development of a European identity?’

Remembering the words of Ludwig Wittgenstein: ‘the world we see is defined and given meaning by the words we choose. In short, the world is what we make of it.’

The Observatory would be coordinating with existing European projects and infrastructures including the European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO) and SoBigData++ to ensure that there is no duplication of effort and that resources are put to support the investigative and research work and make use of the infrastructures and technical support available. The project would support action at national and multi-national level focussed on detecting and analysing disinformation campaigns linked to COVID-19. The results of the PP would be made available to other European and national projects and ensure sharing of best practices and recommendations for effective communication.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

Recent research demonstrates the important role of narratives in framing facts and information in a package that can be easily transmitted across society and how studying narratives can be the key to better understanding how ideas spread across social media and why certain ideas take hold over others. The use of this methodology in understanding the flow of information during the COVID19 outbreak could be vital in finding a different way to inform society and to keep disinformation and misinformation at bay.

Draft amendment 448

=== TRAN/5519 ===

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 20 21 02

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 20 21 02							750 000	750 000	750 000	750 000
Reserve										
Total							750 000	750 000	750 000	750 000

Heading:

Pilot project — IRS Smart Cities Project: New Railway Station concept for green and socially inclusive Smart Cities

Remarks:

Add following text:

The Pilot Project intends to develop a shared methodology for transforming existing stations, or designing new ones into socio-technical systems operating simultaneously as city’s greening engines for the surrounding environment, and new urban hubs aggregating multiple services fully integrated with energy-efficient and socially-inclusive mobility.

The PP is meant to contribute to the achievement of a climate-neutral society, as well as to the implementation of the UN SDGs concerned with sustainable, smart and inclusive cities, transport and infrastructure, resources management, climate mitigation and adaptation, GHG emission reduction, health, environmental protection and biodiversity regeneration, sustainable land use, and gender equality. As such it can furthermore contribute to the research and innovation activities of the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking, or its successor in the context of infrastructure, digital and multimodality.

Railway stations connect multimodal mobility services and the rest of the urban environment. In most cases they also are nodes of the transportation, energy, telecommunications, water distribution and waste disposal infrastructure networks, with a high density of installed technical equipment. As such, they have a big unexploited potential both as new urban vital centres and as installations of advanced engineering solutions for environmental protection, sustainable solutions concerned with mobility, collaborative economy, and social services, contributing to pursue the objectives of the Green New Deal in terms of: Mobilisation of the industry for a circular economy, clean and affordable energy supply, smart and

resource-efficient building, zero urban pollution ambitions, respecting ecosystems and biodiversity, implementing the from farm to fork strategy, etc., in organic connection with smart and multimodal mobility (rail, e-mobility, car sharing, bike-sharing, etc.). Moreover, stations can give a response to sanitary crises (e.g. COVID19) and natural disasters (due to climate change), as they can be readapted or converted to temporary reception facilities, shelters, hospitals, and any other typology that needs availability of big spaces.

All these goals will be integrated and achieved within the project proposals developed for Stations with a common methodology.

The model is aimed to develop a new concept analysis that should represent a paradigm shift in designing all the social activities connected with the railway stations in all the areas in which they operate, broadening its original purpose and functions as a simple departure/arrival point of rail transportation. The new railway station can be not only a less energy-wasting, less polluting facility, but in fact a greening plant in the city that contributes a net positive balance to the environment. At the same time, it can become a dense node of economic and social activities inherently integrated with energy-efficient mobility solutions, multiplying opportunities for economic growth and social inclusion.

At the same time, it can become a dense node of economic and social activities inherently integrated with energy-efficient mobility solutions, multiplying opportunities and solutions for economic growth, collaborative economy, and social inclusion.

In order to achieve an adequate level of interoperability of the transportation networks in the EU, a certain degree of standardization of the essential features of the railway stations is required and, as a consequence, most of the fundamental elements of the railway station design and operation can contribute to deliver innovation to a greater extent. For this reason, the new railway station concept design, operation and management must be conducted according to a common European-wide framework or methodology that, while enabling a sufficient latitude to accommodate specific local conditions or prevailing opportunities, may still guarantee the necessary degree of harmonization and common objectives.

Furthermore, the European Union needs to establish methods and tools to better assess the impacts – in all their dimensions – of innovative patterns affecting urban planning practices and urban mobility in general. A common methodology to streamline and coordinate these instruments will help decision-makers to develop policies in support of the participation from public and private actors to the implementation of innovative and coordinated solutions for mobility. Therefore, the resulting methodology should incorporate business modelling principles, behavioural-economic models and co-design approaches targeted at incorporating the inception into the design of the technical infrastructure. The inclusion of the socio-economic drivers of mobility, climate-friendly and social-inclusive behaviours and businesses will drive and complement the innovation brought in the stations and their surrounding areas, while providing economic actors with incentives for investments at the same time.

Bringing together station managers and railway operators, mayors and local administrations, public and private transport operators, European Institutions, Citizens representative bodies, NGOs, and Research Institutions around a common plan targeted to the urban environment surrounding and including the public stations will streamline public interventions and private investments, while providing an institutional framework to the model that will be created.

The project will be developed through the implementation of at least 4 ‘Living Labs’ in 4 different EU countries. It will follow an applied research pathway mixing fundamental research with the design and creation of new models that would be scalable and applicable to real contexts.

On the one hand, the project’s partners will cooperate in order to know, understand, and explain which operative options can make railway stations and their surrounding neighbourhoods becoming the primary driver of sustainable practices of mobility, logistics and work, and resilient infrastructures able to readapt when necessary. Successively, taking advantage of the outcomes of basic urban research, the project will investigate how stakeholders can fully benefit from the new model proposed which aims to create value

Living Labs will be developed in the following way:

2) Conducting workshops to assess under-developed railway stations potential as multi-service, mobility-hub, urban greening infrastructures, with respect to their possible contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the EU Green Deal's objectives.

4) An open and constantly upgrading approach to the management of the stations will empower citizens to co-develop alternate mobility solutions for social inclusion, collaborative economy, and e-and smart-mobility and implementing it more flexibly. The coherent adoption of the model should help local and national administrations achieving the following objectives:

- 5) Organising a final conference presenting the project's results in every living lab and showcasing the attained models of transformed railway stations.***

Add following text:

Justification:

=====

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 01 02 — European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA)

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA)					
	2021		2020			
	Authorized under the Union budget		Actually filled as at 31 December 2019		Authorized under the Union budget	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16						
AD 15						
AD 14		1		1		1
AD 13		3		2		3
AD 12		8		1		8
AD 11		12		6		9
		40				
AD 10		18		10		16
		46				
AD 9		33		18		27
		28				
AD 8		52		35		46
		47				
AD 7		35		38		27
		30				
AD 6		7		15		4
		2				
AD 5		3		8		6
<i>AD Subtotal</i>		172		134		147
		148				
AST 11						
AST 10						
AST 9						
AST 8						
AST 7		1				
AST 6		1		1		1
AST 5		3		1		2
AST 4				1		
AST 3		3		1		
AST 2						
AST 1						
<i>AST Subtotal</i>		8		4		3
		2				
AST/SC 6						
AST/SC 5						
AST/SC 4						
AST/SC 3						
AST/SC 2						
AST/SC 1						
<i>AST/SC Subtotal</i>						
Total		180		138		150
		150				
Grand total		180		138		150
		150				

Justification:

The agency needs considerably more permanent staff due to its increased mandate and the fact that for reasons of security and business continuity temporary agents are needed instead of short-term contract

agents and outsourcing.

Draft amendment 204

=== ITRE/5048 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 01 10 — Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) — Office

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) — Office					
	2021		2020			
	Authorized under the Union budget		Actually filled as at 31 December 2019		Authorized under the Union budget	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16						
AD 15						
AD 14		1		1		1
AD 13						
AD 12						
AD 11		1				1
AD 10		2		1		2
AD 9		2		1		2
AD 8		2		3		2
AD 7		4				2
		2				
AD 6		2		5		2
AD 5		3				1
		1				
AD Subtotal		17		11		13
		13				
AST 11						
AST 10						
AST 9						
AST 8						
AST 7						
AST 6		1				1
AST 5		1		1		1
AST 4		1		1		1
AST 3				1		
AST 2						
AST 1						
AST Subtotal		3		3		3
AST/SC 6						
AST/SC 5						
AST/SC 4						
AST/SC 3						
AST/SC 2		4				
AST/SC 1						
AST/SC Subtotal		4				
Total		24		14		16
		16				
Grand total	24		14		16	
	16					

Justification:

The request is budgetary neutral. The agency would replace current contract agents and external personnel with more permanent staff to ensure sustainability in the work of the BEREC Office.

Draft amendment 205

=== ITRE/5049 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 01 14 — Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)					
	2021			2020		
	Authorized under the Union budget		Actually filled as at 31 December 2019		Authorized under the Union budget	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16						
AD 15		1		1		1
AD 14						
AD 13		4				3
AD 12		3		4		3
AD 11		4		3		5
AD 10		3		3		3
AD 9		12		4		8
AD 8		9		11		8
AD 7		14		8		8
		12				
AD 6		10		11		14
AD 5		4		10		6
		1				
<i>AD Subtotal</i>		64		55		59
		59				
AST 11						
AST 10						
AST 9						
AST 8						
AST 7						
AST 6		2		1		1
AST 5		4		2		2
AST 4		3		6		6
AST 3		3		3		3
AST 2						
AST 1						
<i>AST Subtotal</i>		12		12		12
AST/SC 6						
AST/SC 5						
AST/SC 4						
AST/SC 3						
AST/SC 2						
AST/SC 1						
<i>AST/SC Subtotal</i>						
Total		76		67		71
		71				
Grand total		76		67		71
		71				

Justification:

The increase in the number of authorised posts for ACER will equip the agency with staff needed for the REMIT, Policy and Market surveillance and conduct and Legal Services.

Draft amendment 67

=== ENVI/5416 ===

Tabled by Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 01 15 — European Environment Agency (EEA)

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	European Environment Agency (EEA)					
	2021		2020			
	Authorized under the Union budget		Actually filled as at 31 December 2019		Authorized under the Union budget	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16						
AD 15		1		1		1
AD 14		2				2
AD 13	1	6		2	1	6
AD 12		16	1	8		16
AD 11		10		8		10
AD 10		11		11		11
AD 9		9		10		9
AD 8		4		8		4
AD 7		7		6		3
		3				
AD 6		8		5		1
		1				
AD 5		3				3
<i>AD Subtotal</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>66</i>
		66				
AST 11	1	2				2
AST 10	2	5		2	1	5
AST 9		12	1	6	2	12
AST 8		11	1	5		11
AST 7		11		8		11
AST 6		11		9		11
AST 5		7		9		7
AST 4		1		11		1
AST 3				7		
AST 2				1		
AST 1						
<i>AST Subtotal</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>60</i>
AST/SC 6						
AST/SC 5						
AST/SC 4	3					
AST/SC 3						
AST/SC 2						
AST/SC 1						
<i>AST/SC Subtotal</i>	<i>3</i>					
Total	7	137	3	117	4	126
	4	126				
Grand total		144		120		130
		130				

Justification:

The EEA is expected to play a key role in supporting the EU Green Deal actions and the 8th Environmental action programme, involving the following additional tasks:

-Expert support for the development of the new monitoring, report and verification framework of the EU Biodiversity Strategy, with emphasis on new initiatives aiming at mainstreaming (land use, forestry,

agriculture, soil).

- Responsibilities with regard to data reporting, analysis and assessments in the context of Circular Economy, Climate change adaption/mitigation, F2F, Covid-19 and Zero pollution Initiatives

=====

Draft amendment 68

=== ENVI/5417 ===

Tabled by Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 01 19 — European Medicines Agency (EMA)

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	European Medicines Agency (EMA)					
	2021		2020			
	Authorized under the Union budget		Actually filled as at 31 December 2019		Authorized under the Union budget	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16						
AD 15		3		3		3
AD 14		9		7		8
AD 13		13		10		12
AD 12		45		43		44
AD 11		51		43		47
AD 10		50		43		44
AD 9		55		43		46
AD 8		80		59		66
		74				
AD 7		76		65		76
AD 6		51		23		46
		46				
AD 5				25		3
AD Subtotal		433		364		395
		419				
AST 11		2		2		2
AST 10		7		7		7
AST 9		9		6		8
AST 8		10		16		19
AST 7		19		22		15
AST 6		20		25		15
AST 5		38		33		39
AST 4		44		55		52
AST 3		28		46		44
AST 2				7		
AST 1						
AST Subtotal		177		219		201
AST/SC 6						
AST/SC 5						
AST/SC 4						
AST/SC 3						
AST/SC 2						
AST/SC 1						
AST/SC Subtotal						
Total		610		583		596
		596				
Grand total	610		583		596	
	596					

Justification:

The workload of EMA has been gradually increasing from 2014 with no corresponding increase in staffing arrangements. Today in the context of COVID - 19 the EMA requested an increase in the budget for 14 temporary agents, however, Commission did not include this request in its 2021 DB. Therefore, the goal of this amendment is to allocate appropriate human and financial resources to this critically important agency.

=====

Draft amendment 120

=== LIBE/5827 ===

Tabled by Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 01 21 — European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol)

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol)					
	2021		2020			
	Authorized under the Union budget		Actually filled as at 31 December 2019		Authorized under the Union budget	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16						
AD 15		1		1		1
AD 14		3		3		3
AD 13		5 6				5
AD 12		11		7		11
AD 11		10		5		14
AD 10		23		14		25
AD 9		51		28		50
AD 8		85 87		67		84
AD 7		152 175		151		148
AD 6		244 260		260		211
AD 5		34 19		11		31
<i>AD Subtotal</i>		583 646		547		583
AST 11						
AST 10						
AST 9						
AST 8		2				1
AST 7		5		3		5
AST 6		6		2		6
AST 5		7		5		7
AST 4		6		8		7
AST 3		3		1		3
AST 2		3		4		3
AST 1						
<i>AST Subtotal</i>		32		23		32
AST/SC 6						
AST/SC 5						
AST/SC 4						
AST/SC 3						
AST/SC 2						
AST/SC 1						
<i>AST/SC Subtotal</i>						
Total		615 678		570		615

Grand total	678 615	570	615
-------------	------------	-----	-----

Justification:

The reinforcement of Europol with 63 additional staff is needed for the Agency to respond to the requests of Member States for even more investigative and operational support, especially in the areas of cybercrime, financial crime, human trafficking and organised property crime. The additional staff should furthermore allow the Agency to develop and maintain the necessary information management capabilities which at the core of Europol's mandate and mission.

=====

Draft amendment 119

=== LIBE/5826 ===

Tabled by Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 01 22 — European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL)

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL)					
	2021		2020			
	Authorized under the Union budget		Actually filled as at 31 December 2019		Authorized under the Union budget	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16						
AD 15						
AD 14		1		1		1
AD 13						
AD 12		1		1		2
AD 11		4				1
AD 10				4		1
AD 9		1				1
AD 8		6				
AD 7		9				
		5		3		5
AD 6		11				
		6		8		7
AD 5		6				
		5		4		5
<i>AD Subtotal</i>		39 23		21		23
AST 11						
AST 10						
AST 9						
AST 8						
AST 7						
AST 6						1
AST 5		5				3
		4				
AST 4		7		3		5
		5				
AST 3		3		2		1
		1				
AST 2				4		
AST 1						
<i>AST Subtotal</i>		15 10		9		10
AST/SC 6						
AST/SC 5						

AST/SC 4						
AST/SC 3						
AST/SC 2						
AST/SC 1						
<i>AST/SC Subtotal</i>						
Total		54		30		33
		33				
Grand total		54		30		33
		33				

Justification:

The proposed increase in total figures from currently 33 statutory staff to 54, together with the corresponding budget increase from 10.4 million to 16.3 million EUR should allow the agency to keep up with the constantly growing demand from the EU Member States for trainings, notably in the area of cybercrime and training in diversity.

Changes compared to the DB2021 establishment plan of CEPOL: +21 staff (54 staff in total); detailed breakdown

+6 AD 8

+4 AD 7

+5 AD 6

+1 AD 5

+1 AST 5

+2 AST 4

+2 AST 3

=====

Draft amendment 121

=== LIBE/5828 ===

Tabled by Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 01 23 — European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (eu-LISA)

Justification:

Beyond the proposed increase in the establishment plan, eu-LISA should be provided 14 additional posts which are essential to develop further a certain number of essential corporate functions of eu-LISA, including the management of the secure network connecting MS with the central systems and support for the project for the second extension of the operational site of the Agency in Strasbourg.

Changes compared to the staffing of eu-LISA (outside the establishment plan):

+ 3 seconded national experts

+ 5 contract agents (FGIII)

+ 6 contract agents (FG IV)

=====

Draft amendment 116

=== LIBE/5823 ===

Tabled by Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 01 24 — European Asylum Support Office (EASO)

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	European Asylum Support Office (EASO)					
	2021		2020			
	Authorized under the Union budget		Actually filled as at 31 December 2019		Authorized under the Union budget	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16						
AD 15		1				1
AD 14				1		
AD 13		3				3
AD 12		6 5		3		5
AD 11		4 3		2		3
AD 10		18 16		5		16
AD 9		24 22		4		22
AD 8		63 58		21		58
AD 7		75 70		29		70
AD 6		40 35		26		30
AD 5		20 18		41		23
<i>AD Subtotal</i>		254 231		132		231
AST 11						
AST 10						
AST 9						
AST 8						
AST 7						
AST 6		4				4
AST 5		20 18		2		18
AST 4		53 49		27		49
AST 3		61 55		39		55
AST 2		11 9		1		9
AST 1				13		
<i>AST Subtotal</i>		149 135		82		135
AST/SC 6						
AST/SC 5						
AST/SC 4						
AST/SC 3						
AST/SC 2						
AST/SC 1						
<i>AST/SC Subtotal</i>						
Total		403 366		214		366
Grand total		403 366		214		366

Justification:

The requested additional staff should go to reinforce field operations, training development and delivery, information and analysis, practical tools, governance activities and administrative functions.

Changes compared to the DB2021 establishment plan of EASO: +50 staff = 23 AD + 14 AST + 13 SNE (550 staff in total)

+ 1 AD12

+ 1 AD11

+ 2 AD10

+ 2 AD9

+ 5 AD8

+ 5 AD7

+ 5 AD6

+ 2 AD5

+ 2 AST5

+ 4 AST4

+ 6 AST3

+ 2 AST2

=====

Draft amendment 102

=== LIBE/5809 ===

Tabled by Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 01 26 — European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)					
	2021		2020			
	Authorized under the Union budget		Actually filled as at 31 December 2019		Authorized under the Union budget	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16						
AD 15		1				1
AD 14		4		2		3
AD 13		3		2		3
AD 12		4		3		2
AD 11		7		1		5
AD 10		12		5		10
AD 9		9		8		11
AD 8		5		11		8
AD 7		3		11		2
AD 6		2		4		3
AD 5						
<i>AD Subtotal</i>		50 48		47		48
AST 11						
AST 10		4				4
AST 9		3		2		2
AST 8		4		4		3
AST 7		5		1		7

AST 6		6		6		6
AST 5		2		7		2
AST 4				4		
AST 3						
AST 2						
AST 1						
<i>AST Subtotal</i>		<i>24</i>		<i>24</i>		<i>24</i>
AST/SC 6						
AST/SC 5						
AST/SC 4						
AST/SC 3						
AST/SC 2						
AST/SC 1						
<i>AST/SC Subtotal</i>						
Total		74		71		72
		72				
Grand total		74		71		72
		72				

Justification:

The four additional posts are requested to ensure the implementation of new projects and to accommodate the needs of the Fundamental Rights Agency in the areas of artificial intelligence (more prominent during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis) and asylum and migration.

+2 Temporary Agents grade AD6

+2 Contractual Agents (FGIV)

=====

Draft amendment 104

=== LIBE/5811 ===

Tabled by Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 01 28 — European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust)

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust)					
	2021		2020			
	Authorized under the Union budget		Actually filled as at 31 December 2019		Authorized under the Union budget	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16						
AD 15						
AD 14		1		1		1
AD 13		1				1
AD 12		1				1
AD 11		5		2		5
AD 10		12		4		12
AD 9		22		15		22
AD 8		21		16		21
AD 7		30		16		29
		29				
AD 6		2		18		2
AD 5		15		8		6
		6				
<i>AD Subtotal</i>		<i>110</i>		<i>80</i>		<i>100</i>
		<i>100</i>				
AST 11						
AST 10						

AST 9		1		1		1
AST 8						
AST 7		1				1
AST 6		5		7		5
AST 5		52		24		52
AST 4		48		33		48
AST 3				42		
AST 2				16		
AST 1				1		
<i>AST Subtotal</i>		<i>107</i>		<i>124</i>		<i>107</i>
AST/SC 6						
AST/SC 5						
AST/SC 4						
AST/SC 3						
AST/SC 2						
AST/SC 1						
<i>AST/SC Subtotal</i>						
Total		217		204		207
		207				
Grand total		217		204		207
		207				

Justification:

ORAL AMENDMENT

ADD the following changes compared to the DB2021 establishment plan of Eurojust: + 21 staff (228 staff in total):

- + 1 AD7
- + 9 AD5
- + 6 FG III
- + 2 FG IV
- + 3 SNE

=====

Draft amendment 206

=== ITRE/5050 ===

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

S 03 02 03 — Cybersecurity Centre joint undertaking (CYBER)

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	Cyber Security Center joint undertaking (CYBER)					
	2021		2020			
	Authorized under the Union budget		Actually filled as at 31 December 2019		Authorized under the Union budget	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16						
AD 15						
AD 14		1				
AD 13						
AD 12						
AD 11						
AD 10						
AD 9		5				
AD 8		1				

AD 7		5				
AD 6		1				
AD 5		7				
		1				
<i>AD Subtotal</i>		20				
		10				
AST 11						
AST 10						
AST 9						
AST 8						
AST 7						
AST 6						
AST 5						
AST 4						
AST 3						
AST 2						
AST 1						
<i>AST Subtotal</i>						
AST/SC 6						
AST/SC 5						
AST/SC 4						
AST/SC 3						
AST/SC 2						
AST/SC 1						
<i>AST/SC Subtotal</i>						
Total		20				
		10				
Grand total		20				
		10				

Justification:

The ratio between temporary agents and contracts agents of the Cybersecurity Competence Centre as suggested by the Commission with 10 vs 26 is imbalanced and should be rectified by transforming 10 of the CA posts into TAs.

This is needed to ensure more stability in the overall workforce of the Centre and to attract highly-qualified personnel.

=====

Draft amendment 355

=== AFET/6485 ===

Tabled by Committee on Foreign Affairs

SECTION I — EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Article 1 4 2 — External translation services

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
1 4 2	8 216 000	8 216 000	7 574 000	7 574 000	7 574 000	7 574 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	8 574 000	8 574 000
Reserve										
Total	8 216 000	8 216 000	7 574 000	7 574 000	7 574 000	7 574 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	8 574 000	8 574 000

Remarks:

After paragraph:

The amount of assigned revenue in accordance with the Financial Regulation is estimated at EUR 50 000.

Add following text:

This budget line also serves to enhance the global outreach and impact of the European Parliament by ensuring the translation of key European Parliament outputs in the field of external relations, notably urgency resolutions, own initiative reports and Sakharov Prize-related matters, into selected non-EU languages (eg Russia, Chinese, Arabic, Farsi) when of relevance to the countries concerned.

Justification:

To enhance the impact and outreach of the EP's work on foreign affairs.

=====

Draft amendment 41

=== JURI/6405 ===

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION IV — COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Article 1 0 4 — Missions

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
1 0 4	280 000	280 000	280 000	280 000	252 000	252 000	28 000	28 000	280 000	280 000
Reserve										
Total	280 000	280 000	280 000	280 000	252 000	252 000	28 000	28 000	280 000	280 000

Justification:

Restore Draft Budget (DB).

The restore DB is necessary to face the cost of Members' missions in 2021. It should be pointed out that the appropriations for this line in the 2021 DB have been kept identical to the 2020 budget. A 10% reduction appears excessive.

=====

Draft amendment 42

=== JURI/6406 ===

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION IV — COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Item 1 2 0 0 — Remunerations and allowances

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
1 2 0 0	267 837 000	267 837 000	272 780 000	272 780 000	271 160 000	271 160 000	1 620 000	1 620 000	272 780 000	272 780 000
Reserve										
Total	267 837 000	267 837 000	272 780 000	272 780 000	271 160 000	271 160 000	1 620 000	1 620 000	272 780 000	272 780 000

Justification:

Restore Draft Budget (DB).

The very high occupation rate of posts (97 %) and implementation rate of appropriations (99 %) of the Court require the annulment of the 1.62 million cut demanded by Council, so that the Court could create the 24 new permanent posts related to the end of the "Irish derogation" and also avoid any appropriations shortages that could make impossible a full use of its establishment plan and imperil the execution of the Court's mission.

Restore Draft Budget (DB).

Draft amendment 43

=== JURI/6407 ===

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION IV — COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Item 1 4 0 0 — Other staff

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
1 4 0 0	8 285 000	8 285 000	8 733 000	8 733 000	8 393 000	8 393 000	340 000	340 000	8 733 000	8 733 000
Reserve										
Total	8 285 000	8 285 000	8 733 000	8 733 000	8 393 000	8 393 000	340 000	340 000	8 733 000	8 733 000

Justification:

Restore Draft Budget (DB).

To be able to properly fulfil its mission, the Court needs the appropriations demanded in the DB for this budget line, so as to be able to recruit a limited number of new contract agents in 2021 (8 FTE) tasked, in particular, of legal databases data-entry, of the reinforcement of security and of the introduction of a system for the electronic management of administrative files (HAN).

Draft amendment 44

=== JURI/6408 ===

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION IV — COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Article 1 6 2 — Missions

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
1 6 2	478 500	478 500	450 000	450 000	405 000	405 000	45 000	45 000	450 000	450 000
Reserve										
Total	478 500	478 500	450 000	450 000	405 000	405 000	45 000	45 000	450 000	450 000

Justification:

Restore Draft Budget (DB).

The restore DB is necessary to allow the performance of staff missions in 2021. It is important to underline that this line in the 2021 DB was already reduced by about 6% compared to the 2020 budget. The Council proposal would amount in effect to a 15% reduction in the line compared with 2020.

Restore Draft Budget (DB).

Draft amendment 45

=== JURI/6409 ===

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION IV — COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Article 2 5 4 — Meetings, congresses, conferences and visits

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
2 5 4	380 000	380 000	380 000	380 000	342 000	342 000	38 000	38 000	380 000	380 000
Reserve										
Total	380 000	380 000	380 000	380 000	342 000	342 000	38 000	38 000	380 000	380 000

Justification:

Restore Draft Budget (DB).

This line is used notably to finance the organization of meetings and seminars with national judges and EU law experts: these events are essential opportunities to develop the relationship between the ECJ and national courts, with the aim of reinforcing judicial cooperation. It is therefore necessary to restore this line at DB level, also considering that it was already kept at the same level as in 2020.

Restore Draft Budget (DB).

Draft amendment 40

=== JURI/6404 ===

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION IV — COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

S 1 — Section IV — Court of Justice of the European Union

Amend remarks as follows:

Amend text as follows:

Function group and grade	2021		2020	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16	5		5	
AD 15	12	3	12	3
AD 14	80[1]	57[1]	81[1]	56[1]
AD 13	96		96	
AD 12	92[2] 94[2]	92	84[2]	91
AD 11	146	110	91	107
AD 10	149	52	176	51
AD 9	142	15	179	9
AD 8	103	2	112	1
AD 7	109 90	2	81	1
AD 6	11		11	
AD 5	29		38	
AD Subtotal	974 954	333	966	319
AST 11	12		12	
AST 10	15	1	15	1
AST 9	46		40	
AST 8	39	15	45	15
AST 7	70	40	58	38
AST 6	92	36	94	36
AST 5	118	27	126	22
AST 4	65	64	76	59
AST 3	54 54	39	69	26
AST 2	13	5	13	5

AST 1	2 4		1	
<i>AST Subtotal</i>	<i>526</i> <i>522</i>	227	549	202
AST/SC 6		3		3
AST/SC 5				
AST/SC 4				
AST/SC 3	8			
AST/SC 2	26		34	
AST/SC 1				
<i>AST/SC Subtotal</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>3</i>
Total	1 534[3] 1 510[3]	563	1 549[3]	524
Grand total	2 097[4] 2 073[4]		2 073[4]	

(1)Of which 1 AD 15 ad personam.

(2)Of which 1 AD 14 ad personam.

(3)Not including the contingency reserve, without allocation of appropriations, for officials seconded to Members of the Court of Justice or the General Court (6 AD 12, 12 AD 11, 20 AD 10, 15 AD 7, 11 AST 6, 17 AST 5, 21 AST 4, 8 AST 3).

(4)Certain posts occupied part-time may be compensated by the appointment of other staff within the limit of the remaining posts thus left unoccupied by function group.

Justification:

To fully implement Council Regulation 2015/2264 concerning the use of the Irish language, the Court needs the 24 demanded posts. The redeployment of existing staff, as suggested by the Council, is not feasible in a context in which the workload is continually increasing and the Court's services, legal translation service included, have already had to cut 6.5% of their staff between 2013 and 2017.

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Draft amendment 443

=== AFET/6573 ===

Tabled by Committee on Foreign Affairs

SECTION X — European External Action Service

Item 2 2 1 4 — Strategic Communication Capacity

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
2 2 1 4	2 000 000	2 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	4 000 000	4 000 000
Reserve										
Total	2 000 000	2 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	4 000 000	4 000 000

Justification:

The EU needs to step up further the fight against disinformation. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the need for the EU to more actively engage in strategic communication and counter disinformation in its neighbourhood and beyond.

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Draft amendment 444

=== AFET/6574 ===

Tabled by Committee on Foreign Affairs

SECTION X — European External Action Service

Item 3 0 0 1 — External staff and outside services

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

	Budget 2020	Draft budget 2021	Council's position 2021	Difference	New amount
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	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
3 0 0 1	79 423 000	79 423 000	81 190 000	81 190 000	81 190 000	81 190 000	450 000	450 000	81 640 000	81 640 000
Reserve										
Total	79 423 000	79 423 000	81 190 000	81 190 000	81 190 000	81 190 000	450 000	450 000	81 640 000	81 640 000

Remarks:

After paragraph:

Amount of assigned revenue in accordance with Article 21(2) and (3) of the Financial Regulation: p.m.

Add following text:

In countries of specific strategic interest for the EU, particularly the accession countries and the associated countries of the Eastern Partnership, the EEAS should foresee, in its establishment plan, the appointment of a local agent dedicated to the monitoring of developments in the national parliament. The tasks covered by this local agent would include, among others: reporting to the different EU institutions on legislation presented / adopted / rejected by the national parliament, notably as regards the approximation with the EU acquis and the implementation of the association agreement; reporting on developments of political relevance for the EU Institutions; reporting on demand on any other relevant development.

Justification:

Improve the cooperation between the European institutions and the parliaments in association and enlargement countries.